



'An attitude of gratitude' - that's something we've been encouraging everyone here at Bancroft's Prep to practise this term. And we really do have so much to be grateful for. Our recent Open Day was an extremely busy and buzzy occasion with hundreds of people coming to see what we're all about. They could not fail to be impressed by our school facilities and the amazing work on display, by our friendly and talented staff and especially by our Prep 2 guides who, as always, were our best ambassadors. It's clear that in uncertain times something parents are prioritising is the outstanding all-round education that we can give their children. Our Harvest Festival was another memorable occasion this half term. The children performed with such joy and, of course, the generosity of our Bancroft's community meant we were able to donate a staggering amount of supplies to the Epping Forest Foodbank who provide emergency support to local families in crisis. The children of the Prep School know how lucky they are and it is impressive that this leads them to want to show kindness and give practical help to those less fortunate. As a school we want to be a force for good in the wider world. It's a privilege to be able to help others and we're grateful to be in a position to do so.

Joe Layton

BETA PGL



Earlier this half term, the Betas ventured to PGL in Hindhead, Surrey on a three-day residential trip. The aim was to build resilience, independence and confidence in our pupils as well as giving them lots of fun and fond memories. For some of them, it was their first time away from home and for others it was the exhilarating activities that took them out of their comfort zones. The groups took part in raft-building, Jacob's Ladder, abseiling, problem solving and a challenge course during the day and by night they played Passport Around the World and sat around the campfire - such adventure and excitement was had! Over to them ...

'The bedrooms were really comfortable.' Hermann (BSS)

'I really loved the trip, it was the best thing that's ever happened in my life! The Giant Swing was the best!' Lucy (BSS)

'I loved working in teams and this was especially important

when we did raft building which was my favourite activity.' Ellie (BSS)

'PGL was so much fun; the Giant Swing was the best part!' Anya (BNB)

'We all worked as a team ...' Irina (BKY)

'It was a challenge to get organised, but I did it!' Ashwin (BKY)

'I loved Jacob's Ladder', Zach (BKY)

Sarah Strong



HARVEST FESTIVAL

We celebrated Harvest this year with a wonderful collection of uplifting and joyous songs performed by our Junior, Senior and Chapel School Choirs. The School Council and Charity Ambassadors performed a sketch called 'Harvest Rainbow' with the message that there are a variety of autumnal fruits and vegetables which can be sourced locally and enjoyed. We were also going to brighten the lives of those who will benefit from our donation to the Epping Forest Foodbank. Thank you for your generous gifts of non-perishable foods and toiletries which were delivered by our Charity Ambassadors and were most gratefully received. Our donation weighed over 630kg - the weight of an American Buffalo - you are all so wonderful!



ANIMAL MAGIC

As we are a community within a school and a school within a community, we thought it would be a good idea to have people from our local area speak to the children about the services they provide. On Tuesday 4th October we had the pleasure of having Sue Gawne from 'Katz at Home' talk to the Upper Phase about the role she plays in looking after cats when people are away. She explained to the children how it is best to 'adopt than shop' and gave our pupils lots of cat care advice on how to manage their pet's behaviour. She explained how her service was less stressful than a cattery for our feline friends. Sue can be contacted on Facebook and Instagram katz_at_home. On Wednesday 12th October Charlotte Hossack, from Dogs' Trust, spoke to the Lower Phase about how to protect yourself around dogs. We meet dogs on a regular basis outside school, on walks, when shopping, at friends' homes ... but how should we treat them and how can we read signs of danger? Charlotte educated the children in a fun way and the assembly was followed by an interactive workshop.



FRENCH ASSISTANT

Bonjour! My name is Pauline Blanchard, I am the new French Teaching Assistant at Bancroft's Senior and Prep Schools. I am really glad to work in such a pleasant, dynamic, and welcoming school. I have just finished an English Research Master's degree at the University of Rennes 2, in Brittany. I specialise in American Noir Fiction and in other foreign languages such as Chinese and Spanish. I love learning from other cultures and discovering other countries. In my free time, I love watching movies and writing short stories, I also enjoy sports such as dancing and jogging, I even used to be a synchronised swimmer. I am looking forward to an exciting and great year!



MACMILLAN

Macmillan is one of the largest cancer charities in the UK. They offer a variety of treatments and services to people through Specialist Care at Home programmes. We always want to contribute to Macmillan to help them fight the battle. We all accessorised our school uniform with green to raise awareness of the charity's iconic logo. The money we have raised will help Macmillan support vulnerable people. We are proud to say we have raised £459.85.

Sarah Strong

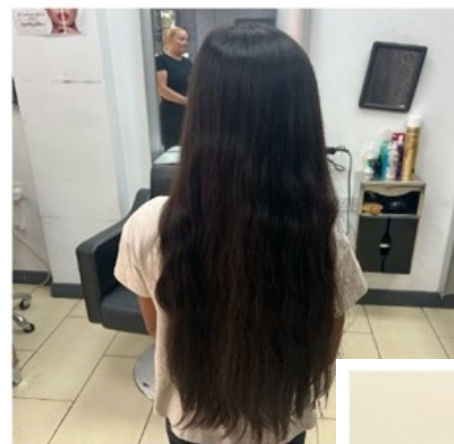
CHESS

Today I want to share my story of playing chess for England, in the Girls U8 World Chess Championship in Batumi, Georgia. England's chess delegation had 8 children in Groups of U8, U10 and U12. You may already know that Georgia has two Women World Champions: Nona Gaprindashvili and Maia Chiburdanidze. This was my second International Chess Tournament. Earlier this year I won the European Schools' U9 Girls Championships in Greece so I was looking forward to this much bigger and longer experience! The tournament had 11 games over 12 days, each game per day lasting around 4 hours, with each player having 90 minutes plus 30 second increments per move. In my section, there were 84 players from 55 countries; most of the girls were Champions or Vice Champions of their countries. Ahead of each game, I felt quite nervous but so did every other player! Out of 11 games, I won 7 and drew one game against another English player. My wins were against the Champions of Russia, United States of America, Belarus, Iran and Uzbekistan but I lost to the Champions of India and Poland. Overall, I came 7th out of 84 players. I really enjoyed the experience and am looking forward to my future chess tournaments.

Zoe BKY



LITTLE PRINCESS TRUST



Just before her 9th birthday in July, Sia decided to cut her hair and has donated 13 inches to the Little Princess Trust. With the support of her family and friends she has also raised

£1,210 for the charity. This is a marvellous achievement making Sia a role model to others for using her initiative and kindness; values we love to see in our Young Bancroftians.

Sarah Strong



MORE CHESS NEWS

On Sunday 9th October, 14 of us took part in the southern round of the English Chess Federation's Girls' National Schools' Championship. It was the most exciting and successful day. We were first allocated a base where we could practise our moves and relax between matches. After that, Mr Layburn and Mrs Life told us our teams - there were five teams in all. We anxiously walked into the vast hall. All we could see were rows of tables each with two seats either side, timers and chess boards. 45 teams would be taking part in the U11 competition representing 20 different schools. We then went through a complicated process of trying to find the table numbers for each team but eventually we were all sitting in our places for that round and we were playing chess using all our knowledge and clever strategies, keen to win. In the first round, we finished with outstanding results: all the members of team A had won their first game! Inspired, we soon strolled back to the hall from our base confidently, ready to win every game. In the next few rounds, people in every team had completed amazing checkmates and had been very brave, taking risks. We all enjoyed catching up with our games (and eating ice cream!) at lunch along with taking photos. After many astonishing results, the match ended at 5.00pm and we were eager to know if any of ours had got through to the finals or not. Finding out that Team A had come in 1st place in the U11 category made everyone ecstatic and proud. Everyone enjoyed this intense but fun competition and we cannot wait to see how they get along in the finals next April.

Liliana (2LW) and Olivia (1CB)



WILLIAM MORRIS

On Thursday 6th October we went to the William Morris Gallery in Walthamstow. William Morris is a famous artist who designed different patterns which are still found today on carpets, textiles, wallpaper, furniture and tapestries. Morris's patterns are inspired by the nature in Epping Forest and are of birds or plants. The William Morris Gallery was William's house until his father died. The park behind it is called Lloyd Park as the people who moved in after William Morris were called the Lloyds. The park was also the garden to the house. Ever since his dad died, Morris lived in Epping Forest. Morris spent most days riding on his pony and exploring nature. Morris's desired way was printing. He used big, heavy wood blocks to print and the more colours he wanted the

more blocks he needed. Morris loved symmetry so much that he had some sort of symmetry in every piece, including mirror symmetry, repeat symmetry and many more. He began modestly, designing simple embroideries, yet by the end of his life, he was making complex tapestries. Since he was brought up in the country, he made beautiful patterns to reflect his love of plants. Embroideries were his first attempt into commercial production and proved popular with clients. We could not wait for the workshop. We started making nature themed drawings then we cut them out carefully. After that we drew a background and added details to our drawings. Then came the most exciting thing of all, the ink! We covered the drawings with ink, but we could only use two colours, one for the background and one for the drawing. The colours were a blue/green one or a purple one. Then we put our drawings down next to a blank piece of paper, then spun a wheel which made the drawing appear on the paper!

Bhavika, Aaria and Dhrithi (1BR)



CHARITY AMBASSADORS

Congratulations to our eight Charity Ambassadors who will be leading and supporting me on various projects this year. Eshan, Ruhaan, Aashritha, Flori, Sophia, Imani, Eva and Aarya all wrote beautiful applications expressing an interest in the role and telling me about past endeavours they have undertaken for charity. Kindness, initiative and collaboration are values we hold in great esteem here at the Prep; let's hope they make a difference and inspire their peers to get on board with many events both in our school community and in our local area. We know it feels so good to do good!

Sarah Strong



ZOOM THROUGH HISTORY

The Betas were treated to a "Zoom Through History" workshop by Historic Royal Palaces. It was interactive and we learnt about the Tudor trumpeter, John Blanke. A historian called Nadia introduced us to John Blanke who played for both Henry VII and Henry VIII. John was the first ever man of colour to have been recorded in English history. We also learnt how historians know so much detail about him by cleaning letters from the past, paintings and other primary sources of information. Nadia was speaking to us from the archives at the Tower of London. John Blanke was in favour with the King and for his wedding, he was even bought a wedding outfit made out of scarlet cloth from Henry VII. Once he even asked for a pay rise and his daily wage was doubled from 8p to 16p - that showed how much the King liked him. He even played a trumpet while on a horse during the Westminster Tournament. Sadly, there were no more facts discovered about him after he was married. This was a fascinating experience enjoyed by us all. Adam and Zach BKY

MAGIC SHOW

On Friday 30th September, the unmissable "Welcome to Bancroft's Party and Magic Show" returned in its full glory! Over 120 children in attendance. What a party! This was an opportunity for the Betas to welcome the Alphas into the wonderful Bancroft's community, with magic tricks from the wonderful Papalani! Papalani mesmerised the crowd with sing-a-long songs, competitions, games, smoke and bubble machines. There was funky dancing, screams of joy and laughter throughout the night, including the amazing kids' karaoke. These children have some impressive moves and boy can they sing! With their dazzling party clothes on, the kids filled their bellies with pizza, bought treats and drank to their hearts content. They played with their friends all evening. The PA provided sweets, cakes and crisps on the night as well as refreshments. All the children went home with a Bancroft's gift and a doughnut! A fun filled evening was had yet again by the new kids on the block, the new Alphas and the Betas. Welcome to Bancroft's Alpha kids! Don't miss out on the next fantastic events coming up. Bancroft's PA

MUDDER CHALLENGE

Most of us in the UK don't think whether the water we drink is clean and safe before we drink it. Unfortunately, a lot of countries don't have access to clean water. I really wanted to help families with this major problem, so I decided to take part in the LIDL Mudder Challenge, a one-mile mud obstacle course to fundraise for The Aydin Foundation. The Aydin Foundation was founded by my uncle whose son Aydin tragically passed away at the tender age of 16 months. Aydin was my cousin that I use to play with regularly. The aim of this charity is to provide clean drinking water to third world countries such as Africa and Bangladesh. My sister and I, with the help of our family, friends, and community managed to

raise £1,390! This money raised will potentially provide 600 people with access to clean drinking water for the next 30 years! Please visit our fundraising page to learn more about The Aydin Foundation, and if you're feeling generous you can donate as little, or as much as you like towards a great cause!

Link: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/sophia-aliya>
Sophia 1BR



HOUSE NEWS

The sight of the tug of war rope on the hardcourt under a beautiful autumnal sun, accompanied by the groans and grunts of Bancroft's Prep students, means that the House competition has officially started. Manor, having successfully managed to regain the House trophy for the third year in a row, have put themselves at the top of the perch and others know that only their best will topple them off. A rain-affected first event meant that the children were attempting to roll a ball the longest distance and stretch a toilet roll from one end of the hall to the other, with great fun being had. Tug of war saw Manor dominate the competition and were on course for another clean sweep, however, the Alpha Knighton group had different ideas and threw tradition out of the window to be victorious for their year group. House Drama is currently being produced behind the scenes by our new, amazing, enthusiastic House captains, and we look forward to seeing their performances towards the end of term.

David Archer



CRICKET

On 4th September 2022, Buckhurst Hill Cricket Club U9 team won BHCC U9 Freddie Goldman Plate. Three of our Bancroftians were in the team - Adam (BKY), Aaryan (BSS) and Aakarsh (BKY). The finals were held at Woodford Wells Cricket Club and the opposing team was Wanstead U9 team including Ashwin (BKY) and Arnav (BCB). It was an excellent game of cricket and the boys worked very hard to achieve such a victory.

Neerja Malik - Aaryan and Aakarsh's mother



BETAS BEGIN BATTLE!

This term, our Beta pupils kicked off our fixtures for the 2022/23 season and of course began their own competitive journey of sport here at Bancroft's Prep School. The Beta pupils hosted New Hall School in rugby and hockey. There were nerves before the games but the pupils used the adrenaline from this to go out and execute all of the skills and tactics they have learnt over the past year. It really was great to witness the pupils shake off any initial nerves to challenge themselves and we cannot wait to see even more of this as we play our upcoming fixtures against St Cedd's and Brentwood.

TOURNAMENTS

Our U11 boys' rugby team played in a tournament at New Hall School where they displayed great resilience and persistence against some strong rugby sides. The boys showed their quality, executing the skills that they have learnt over the past 4 years. Our U10 boys' football team made it to the plate final in their tournament at St. Aubyn's after an afternoon of footballing fun and numerous penalty saves - well done boys! Our U10 girls' hockey team had a fantastic end to the term, finishing as runners up at a tournament hosted by New Hall School. Despite it being their first outing as a team and some new additions to the squad which were well earned, the girls quickly jelled and displayed some great hockey as they went all the way to the final unbeaten. It was a very close final and although we fell just short of the mark, the girls should be extremely proud of their efforts.



PREP 2 PERSISTENCE

Our Prep 2 pupils also competed against New Hall School this term in rugby and hockey. The boys and girls thrived at the opportunity to put into practice all they have been learning so far this year and there were some competitive games for sure. A particular shout out must go to the Prep 2 girls who went on to compete with grit and determination (and smiles on their faces!) despite a disrupted journey back and forth from New Hall School. I often look back on the long coach trips I had with teammates that became good friends and they are some of my greatest memories - I am sure our sing songs, riddles and games will be remembered fondly by the Prep 2 girls after that long (and wet!) day.

IAPS HOCKEY

The Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS) is a school's association with over 660 of the world's leading prep schools. Many Olympic stars began their careers within an IAPS school ... could a member of Bancroft's Prep School be the next one? Our U11 girls' hockey team recently participated in our first IAPS competition of the year at Haileybury School and the girls really thrived off the experience of this. The girls grew in confidence as the day progressed and ended up finishing 4th overall in the region - a fantastic achievement. Well done girls!



LIVE SPORT

Something we are actively trying to promote in the Prep School is the children watching more live sport and this really helps with their understanding. Here are some upcoming dates of major sporting events - it would be great to have support from parents also encouraging their children:

Women's Rugby World Cup

(8th October-12th November)

Men's Rugby League World Cup

(15th October-19th November)

Men's T20 Cricket World Cup

16th October-13th November)

Men's Football World Cup

(20th November-18th December)

HAPPY HALLOWEEN FROM TEAM PE

Why didn't the skeleton want to go to the hockey game?
Because he had no body to go with.