



BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

# Bromsgrovian

NEWS REVIEW

MICHAELMAS 2023  
ISSUE 2



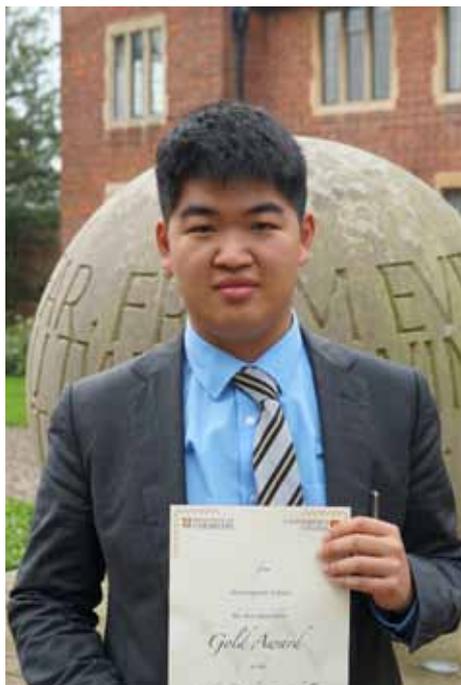
## A Word from the Headmaster

Amongst the many events that have taken place in School recently, there have been our various acts of Remembrance. It is so important that as we enjoy the freedom to take advantage of the many opportunities available at School, that we remember those who gave their lives, and continue to do so, on behalf of all of us. Of course, this includes the two hundred Old Bromsgrovians who died fighting in the two World Wars and whose names are recorded in the Memorial Chapel.

Life at Bromsgrove School continues to be very busy, with pupils of all ages developing interests in a whole host of areas. As the African proverb advises, if you want to walk fast, walk alone but if you want to walk far, walk with others. Bromsgrovians thrive when working together, and as the pages which follow suggest, they have worked, played and performed, to achieve great things – together. Long may this sense of purpose and togetherness remain core to our community; I suspect that if those

two hundred OBs were able to return to meet their successors, they would be very proud of them.

Michael Punt  
HEADMASTER



# Chemistry

Congratulations to the students who completed the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge.

There were two pupils who received Gold: Serisha Sunner and Yanbo Dong. Richard Huang and Jordy Markovic achieved Silver and another seventeen students were awarded Copper.



# Netball

Well done to the U14A team who won all of their five matches convincingly to be crowned District Champions. They now go on to represent the district in the County Finals later in the term.

Congratulations to the U13 team who beat The Maynard School and are through to the next round of the National Cup.



# Feelings

Nursery children discussed feelings and emotions for World Mental Health Day. They also took part in a wellbeing yoga session, made fruit kebabs and made creations with lavender playdough.



# 5k Run

Well done to the boarders of Oakley House who completed their annual 5k run, raising money for 'Help For Heroes'.



# Soup

Prep Gardening Club enjoyed making soup from the pumpkins they had harvested from the School's garden.



## Primrose Performance

A group of Bromsgrove musicians performed at the Primrose Hospice Masquerade Ball, held at King's Norton Golf Club. The group performed a very polished 60-minute set during the Ball's drinks reception.



## Art

Lower Sixth artists created underpaintings for their acrylic portraits. The pupils are challenging themselves with new skills in traditional fine art methods; we look forward to their future creations.



## Dangerous Mathematics

Mr Turner's Year 6 maths group decided to dress up appropriately whilst completing some dangerous algebra.



## Performing Arts

This year's Performing Arts Scholars' evening showcased nearly fifty of the School's finest musicians and actors on stage or the concert platform, and this year, for the first time it included the new Lower Fourth scholars.

The performance began in Cobham Theatre with the Drama Scholars presenting five superb pieces, beginning with a sequence of very moving scenes from the RSC's recent adaptation of *Hamnet*. This was followed by excerpts from the wonderful Lancashire comedy, *Hobson's Choice* and the dramatization of the novel *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*. The first half was brought to a close with a more extended section from Timberlake Wertenbaker's award-winning play *Our Country's Good* which follows the attempts of a group of convicts trying to stage a play in 18th Century Australia.

Particularly impressive was the accuracy and consistency of the dialect work from all performers, a deliberate move to truly stretch the scholars and broaden their acting skills; each scene was, as ever, produced to a very high standard and the Drama scholars showed themselves equally adept and confident in broad comedy as serious drama.

The Music Scholars' Concert which followed after the interval in Routh Concert Hall, was a triumph of individual and ensemble performance featuring all of the Senior Music Scholars. They gave superb performances of Classical era chamber music, a Romantic flute and piano duo, a Baroque Oratorio aria with string accompaniment, a cello quintet, a reimagined Lady Gaga classic, as well as virtuosic solo performances.



# Tennis

Over half term, School held a LTA Grade 4 Tennis tournament. The week's event saw over 112 entries from across the UK, ranging from U8 through to Open (18+).

Well done to everyone who competed and a special mention to Summer Nicol and Gina Obrey who both finished as runners up in their respective

age groups. Anyone interested in competing in future tournaments here at Bromsgrove School, should email [jmcdonald@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:jmcdonald@bromsgrove-school.co.uk)

William Morris represented Hereford & Worcestershire with the team finishing in 1st place at the 12 Counties championships.

Gina Obrey won the women's grade 5 event, where she picked up an outstanding win against the number 1 seed.



# Understanding Economics

The Economics Department recently celebrated a great week for female economists - following Claudia Goldin's winning the Nobel Prize in Economics for her research into women's earnings and labour market participation. Fiona Hettich and Maria Asimaki, both ALP students, impressed Mr Hutsby with their questioning and enthusiasm towards macroeconomics equilibrium. They asked probing questions to deepen their understanding of the subject, and in the process acted as a catalyst for wider class discussion with their peers. The class went on to investigate the impact of higher interest rates, statistics relating to the housing market, as well as falling business confidence and rising costs for the hospitality sector.

Fiona and Maria both received a Bromsgrove School Economics postcard in recognition of their work. After just five weeks of studying the subject, the future looks bright for the female economists at Bromsgrove School.



## Hallowe'en

Prep boarders had great fun at the Page House Hallowe'en Party. They enjoyed taking part in a range of activities including face painting, apple bobbing and sticking the nose on the witch.



## Competition

The winner of the 2023 Senior School House Pumpkin Carving Competition was chosen by the Headmaster. Congratulations to Lupton House who are the overall winners with their exploding brain pumpkin, and well done to Thomas Cookes as runners up for their three-tiered creation.



## Pumpkins

Max Morgan in Year 5 once again grew hundreds of pumpkins to sell for Hallowe'en. This year he had over thirteen different varieties on offer and he opened up his first ever Pick Your Own Pumpkin field. Every year Max donates a percentage of his sales to charity; this year he is supporting Yellow Wellies Farm Safety Foundation who provide support for the physical and mental wellbeing of farmers across the UK. Well done Max.





# Race Report

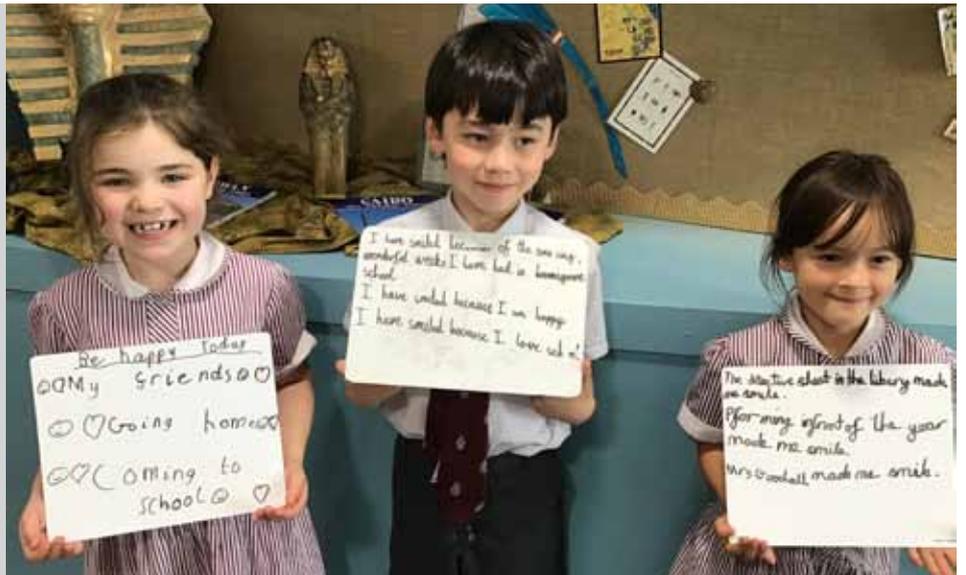
The two Design Technology race car teams - the Chicken and the Egg - attended the International Finals at Glorious Goodwood for the final race day of the season.

Both the Senior and Junior teams performed amazingly and only a technical hitch on the last two laps for Team Chicken meant that they just missed out on a double podium place. The final results after some hard-fought races were third place Kitcar for the Senior team and sixth place for the Juniors.



# Everyone Smiles

The children in Year 3 celebrated World Smile Day by recording three things that had made them smile that week.



# Moon Festival

Every week Nursery children participate in activities to develop their fine and gross motor skills. Recently they made moon biscuits and participated in 'Write Dance' sessions, followed by some extended learning about the Moon Festival.

# Sailing

Congratulations to Stella Nygard who has been selected for the Crew4Gold programme.

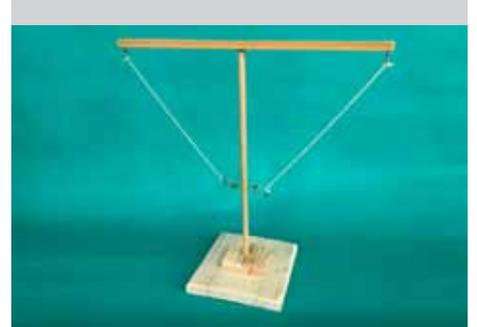
The British Sailing Team and British Youth Sailing have joined forces to launch Crew4Gold – a ground-breaking new talent search to discover female athletes capable of becoming Olympic medal-winning 49erFX crews.

Crew4Gold is a deliberate move away from the historical results-based pathway into elite level sailing, focusing much more on the potential of someone to become a world-class athlete.



# DT Drawings

Excellent examples of 2-point perspective drawings during Design Technology lessons at the Prep School.



Also Sagar Wood has worked very hard on this game in after-school activities.

# Moon Landing

Author Graham Jones (OB), gave Year 2 an engaging presentation about Moon Landings and he shared one of his books with them. Many of the children were excited to take home a signed copy of his book.



# Equestrian Successes

Huge congratulations to Chloe Chan and Blennerville Rua who qualified for Horse of the Year Show 2023. The formidable duo competed in the 143 Working Hunter section. This is an outstanding achievement on such a young pony.

Well done to Amy Pinfield and Nipna Jackmanii who came 10th in the Westtown stud Junior Mountain and Moorland Large breed pony of the year at Horse of the Year Show. She and Earnwell Elwyn also successfully competed in the NPS Baileys horse feeds Dales Pony of the year at Horse of the Year Show.

Well done to Mia-Bella Long who, at just six years old, made her debut at the English Home Pony Show over half term. She was the youngest competitor in the class.



# Hockey

Congratulations to the U11A team who won the Repton Prep Invitational Hockey Tournament beating Warwick Prep in a tense shuffles competition in the final.

Congratulations also to the U13A team who have been crowned IAPS regional champions. They were undefeated all day and thoroughly deserved their gold medals.

# Political Studies

A group of ten IB2 students went to Belfast and Londonderry as part of their Global Politics course. Students were able to gain an insight into the successes and ongoing challenges of the peace process and the difficulties of achieving reconciliation in a post-conflict society. Day one was spent in Londonderry where students visited the Free Derry museum and heard from relatives of those killed on Bloody Sunday. They also spoke with those whose lives were significantly impacted by The Troubles: including a former British Army Serviceman who completed two tours of duty in Northern Ireland; and a woman whose brother was shot and killed by the British Army due to his involvement with the IRA. On the second day, students enjoyed a tour of historic sites in Belfast city centre and West Belfast, before travelling on to Stormont where they were shown round the Assembly building and met with Naomi Long - leader of the Alliance Party and former Justice Minister.



# Intense Training

Fourteen direct entry Gold Duke of Edinburgh participants travelled to Snowdonia for some fast-track expedition training. They learnt to survive and navigate in the mountains in preparation for their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award training. For most of these students, there is a steep learning curve, as they have not experienced the trials of the Silver Award. With poor weather on the first day, they experienced the variety of conditions they can expect and how they can still enjoy the expedition. This was a tiring trip, but a welcome change from the usual School routine and in such beautiful surroundings.

## Cross-Country

After the first round of the ESAA Cross-Country Cup all teams progressed to the regional finals.

The Junior girls, Junior boys and Intermediate boys were all successful in their competitions. The Junior boys finished second with both the girls and Intermediate boys teams becoming regional champions. Extra special praise must go to Martha Blower who won her race.

The teams now look forward to competing in the National finals in December.



## Mandala

As part of Early Years Wellbeing Week, Nursery children created Mandala patterns outside. They worked together collecting leaves, twigs and stones to create some beautiful natural patterns. Mandala is a symbol of the universe in its ideal form and the circles represent wholeness.



## Heritage Workshops

As part of Remembrance, Year 8 explored connections between WW1 and Bromsgrove School, culminating in a walking tour of the grounds and a visit to the Heritage Centre in Senior School.



## Rugby Tour

Director of Rugby, Mr Windo, together with Mr Colson, took twenty-three UIV boys on a short tour to Wales for a rugby packed weekend. The tour got off to a perfect start in Abergavenny with an emphatic 47 – 7 victory against Christ College Brecon. Following the game, the tour party continued their journey to Cardiff where they enjoyed watching the first World Cup semi-final between New Zealand and Argentina on a big screen.

On Saturday morning the tour party travelled to the Principality Stadium for a guided tour followed by more match viewing. On Sunday they went to Cowbridge RFC for the final game of the tour. They knew this would be a tough challenge, and the boys played some excellent rugby in attack while defending heroically at times in defence. The game finished with a narrow 22-19 defeat, but it was a performance the boys can be proud of and build on for the remainder of the season.



## Rockets

Year 2 enjoyed decorating and eating space themed treats as part of their Rocket Day. They also made rockets and attempted to launch them.



## Evensong Collaboration

The Music Department invited 100 young singers to a 'Come and Sing' day. During the day they rehearsed in preparation for a service of Choral Evensong. The amalgamated choirs of Blue Coat, Winterfold and Bromsgrove Prep Schools were joined by the Senior Chamber Choir, singing wonderfully in music by Bob Chilcott and Herbert Brewer. We hope everyone enjoyed the day, and that more days like this will follow.

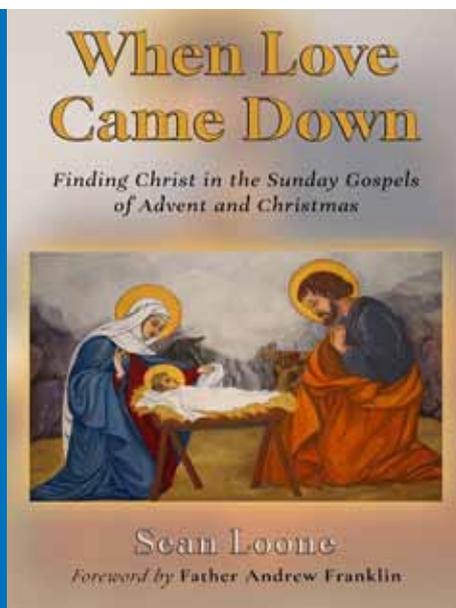
# Bromsgrovian News

## Advent

The Reverend Dr Sean Loone, Assistant Chaplain, has released a new book, with proceeds going to charity.

'When Love Came Down' invites the reader to simply spend time with the word of God during the seasons of Advent and Christmas.

The book is available on Amazon in dual format and from Waterstones online.



## Influential

We are delighted to have been announced as one of the top ten most influential HMC schools on Instagram.



## OB Visits

### Paul Higham

OB Paul Higham (E 64-69) and his wife, Sarah, visited at the beginning of October. They particularly enjoyed looking around the Cricket Pavilion and commented on how much of the 'old' version of the School has remained unchanged. Routh Hall, the Chapel, Kyteless, Gordon House (now Wendron-Gordon), School House, the Administration block, the Armoury. Even the old science block - back then, Biology, Physics and Chemistry - and the dining hall and 'tuck' shop are still, positionally, the same.



### Richard Pettigrew

It was lovely to welcome Richard Pettigrew (S 62-67) to the Heritage Centre where he was able to search for himself in photographs from the School Archives. His pupil guide was also a Hockey player, as Richard had been, and was amazed to see how little protection goalkeepers wore in the 1960s!



## Golf Successes

Old Bromsgrovians Ryan Cleary (E 01-08) and Alex McIntosh (L 96-04) were awarded with the 'Best Pair Score' at the Welsh Public Schools' competition, held at Porthcawl Golf Club.

Overall, the Old Bromsgrovians' Golf Society finished fifth in the team competition. They played alumni teams from Dean Close, Brecon, Cheltenham, Clifton, Malvern, Harrow and Wycliffe.



## Mission Hills

The Headmaster, Miss Scannell and Mr Michael Luckman (Chairman of Governors) visited Bromsgrove School Mission Hills in China where they observed lessons and met pupils and staff as well as attending the Annual Board Meetings.



## Talking Shop

Old Bromsgrovian Stephen Page (L 78-83), Chair of Faber and Faber, returned to Bromsgrove for an external event hosted by the Bromsgrove Society. One pupil was lucky enough to get the chance to talk to Stephen about a career in publishing.

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 at: [oldbromsgrovians@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto: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.

## Team Bromsgrove- calling all runners

Would you like to lace up your trainers and be a part of the Bromsgrove School team of charity walkers/runners? The aim is to have fun whilst training to walk, jog or run the 2024 AJ Bell Great Birmingham Run on Sunday, 5th May for Cancer Research UK.

The 2024 AJ Bell Great Birmingham Run takes in many popular landmarks across the city centre and beyond. You can find out more about it at <https://www.greatrun.org/events/great-birmingham-run/>. You can opt to tackle either the 10k or Half Marathon on the day as both start at the same time and place.

If you would like to join Team Bromsgrove, please email [enquiries@bromsgrove-school.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@bromsgrove-school.co.uk)

