



BROMSGROVE SCHOOL

Bromsgrovian

NEWS REVIEW

MICHAELMAS 2025
ISSUE 1



A Word from the Headmaster

As I write, the new school year is well underway, and pupils, both new to Bromsgrove and those returning, are already fully immersed in the wide range of opportunities that characterise a Bromsgrove education. It goes without saying that the best schools offer a breadth of experiences designed to develop young people as fully as possible, so that they are well prepared to follow their dreams, to thrive beyond school, and to play their part in making the world just a little better. Of course, pupils are not all the same, nor are their aspirations, and they will, quite rightly, choose a wide variety of paths.

The start of the year is also a natural moment to reflect on last year's leavers, of whom we are immensely proud, not only for what they achieved, but for the talented and thoroughly decent young people they have become. Many of them played a key role in setting such a positive tone across Bromsgrove.

You can read about their excellent results in the pages that follow, including the outstanding IB results that placed Bromsgrove as a Top 7 Global Co-Educational IB School. A level, BTEC, and GCSE results were also excellent, and 90% of leavers secured their first-choice university place. This month, a quarter of them will begin courses at a World Top 50 university and a sixth will be studying abroad. In the UK, the most popular destinations for Bromsgrovians were Bath, Birmingham, Durham, Exeter, KCL, LSE, Nottingham, and UCL. Further afield, OBs will be making their mark at institutions including Barnard, Boston, Columbia, NYU, Rice, Washington, Toronto, HKU and CUHK, Bocconi, Leiden, Stockholm, and the École Supérieure de Commerce de Paris.

University is not the right path for everyone, of course. A small number of leavers have opted to take planned gap years; others have secured prestigious degree-level

apprenticeships including with Rolls-Royce, Airbus, and Williams F1. One won a place to study music at a conservatoire, and another will begin training at Norland, the world's oldest and most prestigious childcare training institution.

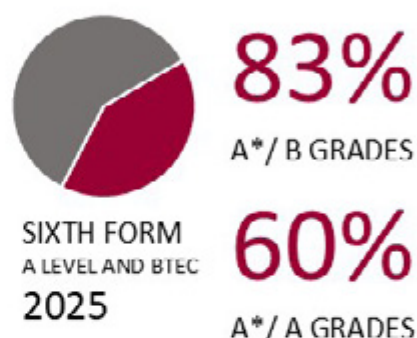
We wish all those recent leavers every success and happiness and hope they will always stay in touch with their School.

For current pupils, we continue to seek to build on our academic strengths and on the many other areas that make up a rich and nurturing school experience. One day, today's pupils will choose their own paths beyond School, but for now we hope they thoroughly enjoy taking full advantage of everything on offer here.

Michael Punt
HEADMASTER

2025 Results

We are delighted with this year's results across GCSE, A level, IB and BTEC. As regards universities, the picture is very encouraging; an unprecedented 90% have secured their first-choice place, and the vast majority of the remainder will be going to their insurance choice. 100+ of our Sixth Formers received top Russell Group universities with LSE, Imperial, Cambridge, Oxford, Durham, Exeter and UCL being favourite destinations for our leavers. Some have secured apprenticeships with Ballards LLP, Carter Jones, Williams F1 Racing and many more.



20+ DIFFERENT
NATIONALITIES
STUDYING THE IB



45 POINTS
FIVE STUDENTS GAINED THE
MAXIMUM IB SCORE
(ACHIEVED BY 0.3% OF IB CANDIDATES WORLDWIDE)

Quadruplets

We are delighted to welcome our very first set of quadruplets to the School – Angelica, Joy, Nathan, and Samson Kariuki have joined us from Kenya for their Sixth Form studies at Bromsgrove.

This marks a truly special moment in our School's history, and we're thrilled to have them as part of our diverse and vibrant community.



Track and Field

Year 7 twins Hari and Jai Vijn have made history with record-breaking performances at the National Prep Schools Athletics Finals.

Hari became the first Bromsgrove student to win three gold medals at the event—in the High Jump, Long Jump, and 4x100m relay—setting two national records. His High Jump result ranks him equal 1st in the UK.

Jai also excelled, winning gold in the 75m Hurdles (a national record), gold in the 4x100m relay alongside Hari, and silver in the Long Jump. His Hurdles time ranks him 2nd in the UK, and his wind-assisted time is the fastest nationally.

We are incredibly proud of these outstanding achievements from two of the UK's top young athletes.



Young Translator

Barbara Britanishskaia has won the Midlands prize in the Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators for her Russian Level 4 entry. The national competition, run by the Queen's College Translation Exchange, involved over 22,000 students across six languages. Her translation was selected from nearly 5,000 entries, judged by a panel of experts and Oxford students.



Anthea Bell Prize
for Young Translators

THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Aston Villa Camp

Aston Villa hosted a football camp at the School over the Summer holidays. Along with pupils from Bromsgrove, many more came along from the local community, and it was a week of learning new skills, competitive spirit and teamwork. A special well done goes to Phoebe Lloyd who took home 'Coaches Player for the Week' in the Senior category.



England

Krystof Wood was selected for England Rugby's tour to South Africa. Krystof travelled with the School on our recent tour and was subsequently chosen for England following his impressive performances for Gloucester Rugby at the academy festival.



CCF Cadets

To mark the 80th anniversary of VJ Day and the end of WWII, members of the CCF joined Bromsgrove's Royal British Legion and Civil dignitaries at the Burma Star Memorial in Bromsgrove town.

Performers

Congratulations to Venise Moodley who entered the National Youth Monologue Competition for young actors. The finals were held at the beginning of July in the Ambassador Theatre, London, where she finished in second place.



Well done to Leah Marie who performed in the Young Rep production of 'Medea' at the Repertory Theatre in Birmingham as part of their Home and Horizons Festival.



Alayna Oozageer has successfully auditioned to be in the Treasure Island Panto taking place in the Artrix theatre this December. She will be part of the pirate ensemble group across fourteen shows in the lead up to Christmas.



Planetarium

Year 2 enjoyed a wonderful planetarium experience. They explored the solar system, the International Space Centre and learnt about 'Starship', the tallest and most powerful rocket ever made.

Following the exciting news that a spaceship had been seen flying over Pre-Prep, this was a 'stunning start' to their topic.

Cyber Heroes

Pre-Prep children transformed into Cyber Heroes during a Theatre Workshop all about online safety. Wearing creative masks and adopting imaginative alter egos such as Nintendo Boy, Captain Computer, and Gadget Girl, pupils stepped into Internet Land where staying safe online was the ultimate mission.

Each year group encountered wise and memorable characters who shared rhymes and advice to help them navigate the digital world safely. The children were enthusiastic and fully immersed in the workshop, showcasing both their acting talent and a strong grasp of these vital safety messages.



Teddy Bear Day

To mark National Teddy Bear Day, our wonderful Reception children were introduced to a very special friend - George, our Bromsgrove School Teddy Bear. We are incredibly proud of how confidently and joyfully our Reception children have settled into their first week at School. Their enthusiasm, kindness, and curiosity has already shone through. We can't wait to see the adventures George gets up to with each child as they explore, learn, and grow together.

Welsh National Squad

Congratulations to Henry Foster who has been selected for the Welsh National Swimming Squad programme. The programme supports talented swimmers to develop and achieve international success, particularly at Commonwealth, European, World and Olympic/Paralympic levels. We look forward to following Henry's progress with the team throughout the year.





Gardening Club

In Prep School Gardening Club, the pupils were thrilled to harvest runner beans, cucumbers and tomatoes - all of their hard work before the summer holidays has paid off. Chef Steve has been using the produce in School lunches.

Several Senior pupils have also teamed up with the Prep pupils to help maintain the garden. This long-standing activity programme promotes teamwork, mentorship, and a strong sense of shared accomplishment and community throughout the School.



Cricket

Congratulations to George Hall and Ayan Khan who, over the summer holidays, were selected for the Midlands region in the Bunbury Festival - they are two of the fifty-four most promising players in England and invited to the cricket tournament held at the ECB National Performance Centre at Loughborough University.

Well done to both boys - who worked tirelessly across their Bromsgrove cricket programme and enjoyed successful seasons at School and for their clubs, with George also making his debut for Barnt Green CC 1st XI in the Birmingham Premier League.

Following on from Alfie Higgins's selection for the Worcestershire Men's 2nd XI earlier this term, we are delighted to report that he has now been chosen for the Championship Final against Surrey.

IB History

The 2024/25 outgoing IB Historians achieved 100% level 7 at Higher Level, putting the department at the top of the world in terms of results.

Many have gone on to study History at university and will remain an excellent example of how their hard work and passion can deliver fantastic grades. Miss Zafar, Head of History, says that they were an absolute pleasure to teach and she is very proud of them.



St John's Helpers

We have introduced a new activity for this academic year: Bromsgrove Service St John's helpers. Recently, students visited St John's Church to consider how they can forge even stronger links together. Rev. Khan led an informative and enjoyable tour in which students learned about Sir Thomas Cookes (our founder) and others with links to St John's, as well as the history and architecture of the church, and the restoration of the spire.

For Senior students, activities take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays - there's something for everyone to get involved in after the bell rings at the end of the School day - whether that be kit car racing, archive club, arts and crafts, or helping those in the local community to name but a few.



England

Congratulations to Zach Trinder who has been selected for his second U15 Men's England football camp. We look forward to hearing more about it soon.

Forest School

Year 4 built and lit the fire in Forest School using flint and steel. They also cooked s'mores and developed their whittling skills.



Tennis

After a brilliant Summer Term of tennis at Bromsgrove, our players continued their momentum throughout the holidays with a number of outstanding successes. The summer concluded in style at the Hereford & Worcestershire, Warwickshire & Staffordshire County Championships.

We were delighted to see so many of our juniors and seniors competing with passion, energy and smiles, not only from the School but those who we also

coach through the Tennis Academy. A huge congratulations to all of our players on their performances:

- Dillon Kenth – U8 Champion
- Xander Turner – U8 Champion
- Macklin Coalter – U14 Champion and U14 Doubles Champion
- Grace Hadley – U14 and U16 Champion, U16 Doubles Champion and 2025 Player of the Year
- Gina Obrey – U18 Champion, U16 Doubles Champion and U18 Mixed Champion
- Toby Ward – U18 Champion and U18 Doubles Champion
- Charles Fielding – U18 Doubles Champion, Men's Doubles Champion and U18 Finalist
- Jad Salem – U9 Finalist
- Jake Webley – U9 Finalist and Doubles Finalist
- Summer Nicol – U14 Doubles Finalist
- George Hadley – U18 Finalist and U18 Doubles Champion
- Callum Hooper – U18 Doubles Finalist
- Chaim Conroy – U18 Mixed Champion
- Frederick B - U9 Singles Semi-Finalist



Geographers

Over the summer, five Prep School pupils (and two pupils that have now moved on to the Senior School), submitted a wonderful poster entry to the Young Geographer of the Year competition. The theme this year was islands. Mrs James has submitted their entries to the Royal Geographical Society and we are hoping to have a national winner when the competition is judged.

Well done to the following pupils who have all received a Headmasters Commendation for their work.

Well done to Keerit Maumi, Annika Chawathey, Hugo Bateman, Kimi Fickert, Teresa Tian, Lokesh Reddi and Arnav Ghale.



British Young Pilots

Ben White had a day to remember as he flew a real plane on his 12th birthday through the British Young Pilots scheme. Ben has been working hard in the British Young Pilots Flight Club, one of the many pursuits offered to Bromsgrove Prep students during after-school activities, learning the basics of aviation and practising regularly on a flight simulator. His dedication paid off when he had the chance to put his skills to the test in the air.

The flight marked a big step for Ben who is now working towards his Level One Pilot Certificate. Ben described the flight as "an amazing experience" and said it made his birthday even more special.

Music Tour

The Music Department embark on a tour of The Netherlands over October half term, and invite Old Bromsgrovians, parents and friends of the School to their concerts in Noordwijk, Utrecht and Amsterdam.

19/10/2025 - Buurtkerk, Hoofstraat 10, 2202 GD Noordwijk

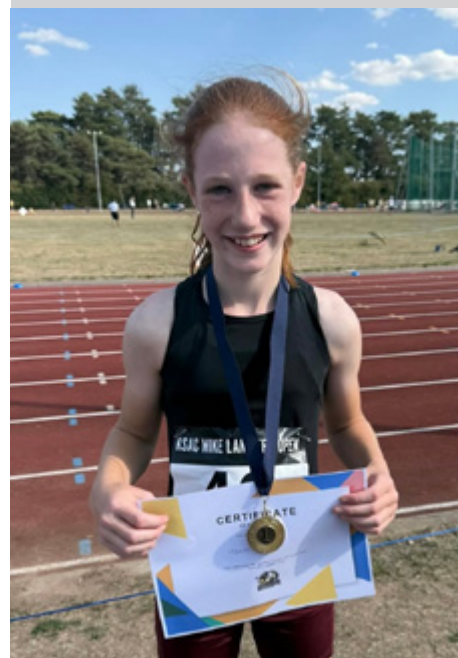
20/10/2025 - St Martin's Cathedral, Achter de Dom 1, 3512 JN Utrecht

21/10/2025 - English Reformed Church, Begijnhof 48, 1012 WV Amsterdam



Quadrathlon

Harper Coates represented Birchfield Harriers at the Mike Lambert Open event at Stourport Athletics Club. Competing in four events throughout the day, she demonstrated exceptional performance and secured first place overall in the U11 Girls' Quadrathlon.



Essay Competition

Four of our Upper Sixth pupils have been shortlisted in the John Locke Institute Essay Competition - Elina Quito in Law and Economics, Runo Syrimis in Law, and Evan Zhou and Max Borisevich in Economics. The John Locke Institute encourages young people to cultivate the characteristics that turn good students into great writers: independent thought, depth of knowledge, clear reasoning, critical analysis and persuasive style. The Essay Competition, a global initiative, invites students to explore a wide range of challenging and interesting questions beyond the confines of the School curriculum.

Equestrian

Congratulations to Delilah Wood who won the BE100 Open section at Chillington Hall Horse Trials in Staffordshire, despite the wet and tricky conditions. She is now looking forward to competing at the Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials.



Parliament Trip

Forty-four Upper Sixth A level Politics students spent the day visiting Westminster. After a tour of the Monarch's Robing Room and the Lords' Chamber, students greatly enjoyed watching an emergency debate in the House of Commons. In the afternoon, students visited the Institute of Economic Affairs to learn more about the role of Think Tanks in UK democracy. It was a long day, but one that really brought the course to life for our students.



Hockey

Congratulations to our U13 girls who won the Repton Invitational hockey tournament without conceding a single goal all day. In the group stages, the girls showed great composure and teamwork, recording victories over Witham Hall, Beeston Hockey Club, Repton B and Warwick High B. These results saw Bromsgrove finish top of their group and secure a place in the final.

The final against King's High Warwick was a tightly contested match, with both sides playing excellent hockey. With just four minutes remaining, Bromsgrove raised their game and scored two outstanding goals to seal a 2-0 victory and claim the gold medals.



50K Ultra Challenge

After seven months of training, Mr Munn completed 50k in a day, raising money for Parkinson's UK in memory of his mum. Taking on the South West Coast 50K Ultra Challenge, Mr Munn said "for the first time, and before a big birthday next year, I decided that 2025 was the year to take on some serious trekking challenges for charity." Mr Munn has raised just over £5,000 for the Parkinson's UK, which has exceeded his original target. Thank you to everyone who has donated.

You can find out more about Mr Munn's challenge at https://www.justgiving.com/page/chris-munn-3?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=CL



Football

Huxley Lancaster has joined Redditch Borough Football Club over the summer holidays. He enjoyed his first match just before returning to School, scoring within the first minute and securing the coveted "player of the match" accolade.

New Monitors

The Headmaster was delighted to welcome his new team of Monitors.

The traditional Signing-In ceremony took place in front of a full Routh Assembly, with each Monitor being called up to sign the Monitors' book in silence, before each received celebratory applause from the School.

The Headmaster also announced his Heads of School. Congratulations to Heads of School Rufus Cole and Elina Quito, Deputy Heads of School Austin Cooke and Ilerioluwa Odugbesan and Senior Boarders Lockey Wigglesworth and Jenny Tang.



BISC Opening

The Headmaster, Mr Punt, was honoured to attend the opening ceremony of Bromsgrove International School Cambodia. In attendance were many distinguished guests including H.E. Dr. Hong Chuan Naron (Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Youth and Sports) and H.E. Dominic Williams (British Ambassador to Cambodia), as well as H.E. Mr. Tao (Head of Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports). The Founder and CEO, Mr Oknha Keo Sambath, with whom we have worked closely, spoke powerfully of his vision to establish a school of true international quality in Cambodia - one that offers young people the same enriching opportunities available in advanced countries. By drawing on the distinguished heritage of Bromsgrove School, he and his team aspire to ensure that young people flourish and, in doing so, help strengthen the future of the Kingdom of Cambodia.



Bromsgrovian News

Exhibition

Miss Scannell had an impromptu catch up with Old Bromsgrovian Emma Cartwright (TC 14) whilst exhibiting at the Village Market in Nairobi. It was lovely to find out that she is teaching Year 3 pupils at Braeburn School in Kenya, and to hear news of her brother Eddie Cartwright.



Birmingham Panthers

Alanna Pullen (OH 18-23) has signed a professional contract with Birmingham Panthers for the upcoming Netball Super League season. This is on top of being selected for the England U21 squad for the Netball World Youth Cup.



Visit

It was a pleasure to welcome back Constantin von Crailheim (E 11-14) at the start of the new academic year. He was visiting from Germany with his girlfriend, eager to show her around his old House, Elmhurst, and the School grounds.

Pre-1980s Leavers' Reunion

At the start of term, we welcomed back former pupils for a special reunion for those who left the School before 1980. The day began with a welcoming service in the Memorial Chapel, followed by a group photograph and a tour of the School led by current pupils. OB Thomas Jay even got to ring the bell again, sixty-five years after he finished his last Chapel duty.

Lunch in the Dining Hall brought back fond memories, and the afternoon continued with rugby matches and the chance for Old Bromsgrovians to record their school-day memories on film for our Archive.



Sailing

Recent leaver Stella Nygard (TC 23-25) enjoyed a busy summer of competition. With her new helm Ed, she sailed at the 29er World Championships in Portugal, and despite only having very limited time training together and tricky wind conditions, they sailed on to 21st in bronze fleet and 5th mixed team. In the UK 29er National Championships, Stella and Ed reached 20th overall and 4th mixed team. Stella also raced at the WASZP World Championships in Weymouth. We are proud to report that she finished 58th in the bronze fleet, 11th female and 4th U19 - an excellent achievement considering this was her first ever event in the boat class.

Stella now goes on to study Geography and Politics at university, and will continue to sail whenever her calendar allows; she recently received an invite to the Athena Foiling Pathway, which aims to accelerate diversity, inclusion, and performance in sailing and wider maritime sports. Through world-class training, mentorship, and community outreach, Athena Pathway is shaping the next generation of leaders on and off the water.



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.