

Brymore

experience to last a lifetime

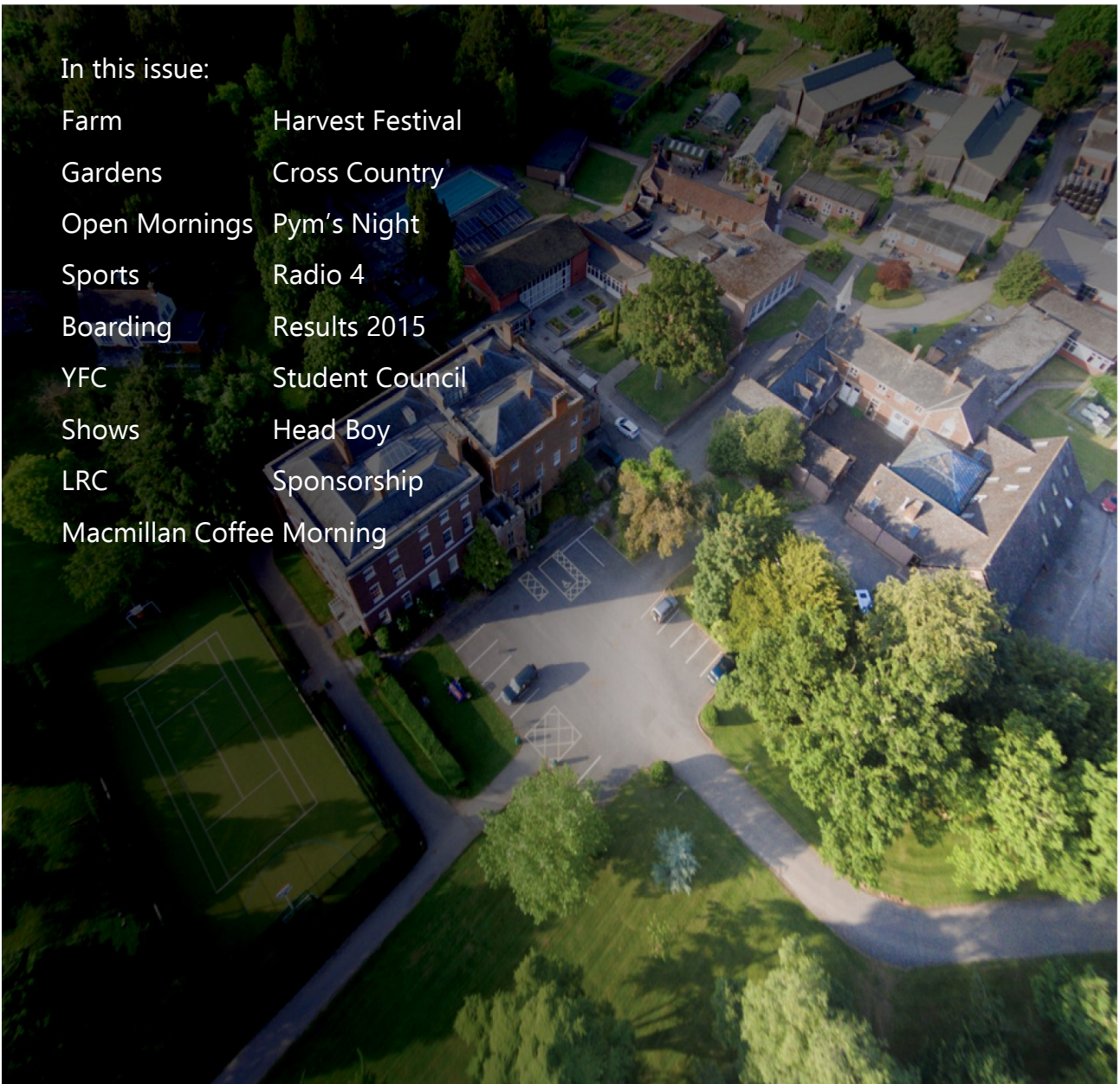
Newsletter

October 2015

www.brymoreacademy.co.uk

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Diligentia et Labore



Message from the Headteacher

'Our purpose is not to teach farming solely for its own sake, nor to send out boys fitted only to farm. We aim much higher than that- education at its widest and truest, by giving an understanding and love of mankind.

By living together in a happy fellowship of a school, by playing together and by studying all those things which go to make up the story of a man in relation to the eternal truth which springs from the very soil – our inheritance from God- we shall send out into the world boys fitted to become- better farmers, yes! - but also better citizens, better men.'

Written in 1955 by Reg Adcock, Headmaster Brymore School (1955-1983)

I believe that Brymore continues to strive to meet the vision created by Mr Day (the first Headmaster of Brymore) and Mr Adcock, as much today as it did when Brymore first began. In my October newsletter last year, I reported that we had had eighty families visiting our two Open Mornings, compared to nineteen the year before. This year, we have had over eighty again, but this time we only have places in Year 7 available, whereas in previous years boys would have been looking to join in Years 7 or 9. In simple terms, it is likely that applications to join Brymore will double this year (we had 42 for 22 day places last year) showing the value that parents place on an education that emphasises the development of the boy as a whole, creating 'better men' as well as students with better grades.

This newsletter gives a real insight into just how busy the past six weeks have been. For me, half term ended with Pym's night on Saturday. I was joined by Mrs Davis and six boys, who willingly gave up their time to wait on the Old Boys. I would like to thank James and his catering team, along with Joe Parkman, Cameron Weldon, Kai Rose, Herb Elliott, Sol Perry and Alex Powell for running such an efficient service. I am told the food and service were the best they have ever been.

Pym's Night is an opportunity for many 'Old Boys' to get together and remember their time at Brymore and for them to see and hear how their school has continued to develop since they left. The Old Brymorians raise around £10 000 a year to support boys at the school; however, their support goes beyond that. They provide a constant reminder of the ethos and values that Brymore boys are expected to live by and what the school itself stands by. In my speech to them on Saturday night, I told them that I feel that the decisions I make on a daily basis are guided more by them and all the Brymore 'Old Boys', than by any Ofsted inspector. As a Head, I have always believed that a good school has to base its ethos on two things: good discipline and hard work. This is what Ofsted reported last year. In truth, I know that this has been the Brymore way for over 60 years and I am merely continuing a long running tradition.

On Saturday, it was fitting that Peter Harris, Chair of the Old Brymorians Association received an honorary life membership, in recognition of his dedication and hard work over the past six years, in particular during his time as Chairman. Peter, along with the other committee members, continues to show 'Diligentia et Labore' and to be an inspiration for many Brymore boys.

I wish everyone a restful half-term holiday - unless you are involved in the harvest, that is!

Best wishes



Horticulture

Autumn, as many of you will know, is particularly busy in the world of Horticulture and nowhere less so, than here at school. We have had a good crop of apples that we have been pressing, juicing and bottling; all of which the boys have had a hand in. We have sold loads of apple juice and are continuously selling out. After half term the boys will even be trying their hands at cider making!

We continue to be oversubscribed with boys plots and have a waiting list. Boys have been busy during the half term, weeding, preparing the ground, and planting crops including cabbage, broad beans, onions and garlic.

During lessons we have been taking cuttings, potting, pricking out summer sown seeds and lots of other jobs including making up the winter hanging baskets for around the school.

The potting shed roof continues to progress well—we have had to find alternative storage and teaching space elsewhere while improvements continue; this has been tricky, but the good weather has enabled us to work outside in the glorious autumn sun!

After half term we ask that all boys doing any practical lesson in land based, whether agriculture, horticulture or forest school, are to have steel toe-capped boots and need to bring in warm clothing to wear underneath their overalls. We work outside in all weathers and it is vital that boys layer up to keep warm. In addition, waterproof coats and trousers prove very useful when the rain sets in. Boys without suitable attire will be subject to a Level 1 disciplinary action.

Garden duties still continue and it is vitally important that boys turn up when scheduled. However, if this proves difficult then boys need to see myself or Mrs Stanley before the duty night so that we can organise swaps. Boys missing duties will result in detentions and Level 1 sanctions.

Our garden cart continues to be popular on Saturday afternoons when we sell lots of produce between 3.45-5pm. We would like to extend our thanks to everyone who supports this as it helps us put the money back into the Horti department.

If you are near a garden centre anytime soon, then I'd encourage you to look out for the free Country Gardener publication. I am featured in an article talking about Brymore and hopefully will get to have a regular spot. (Mr Willcocks)



Farming Today on Radio 4

In 2013 Brymore launched the 'Field to fork' campaign, when it became clear that no Land Based qualifications would count in the school league tables. While students continue to study Agriculture and Horticulture at Brymore, many schools have dropped these subjects. Were Land Based subjects to count, we would be in the top 5% of schools nationally.

Farming Today ran a week long segment on agricultural education and Vicky Davis was asked to explain our viewpoint in an interview on Friday morning, which was re-broadcast alongside Bridgwater College on Saturday. The interview focused on the impact of such decisions on boys and the biggest irony of all—that a BTEC in Agriculture does not count for Brymore, but does count on college league tables...

(Mrs Davis)

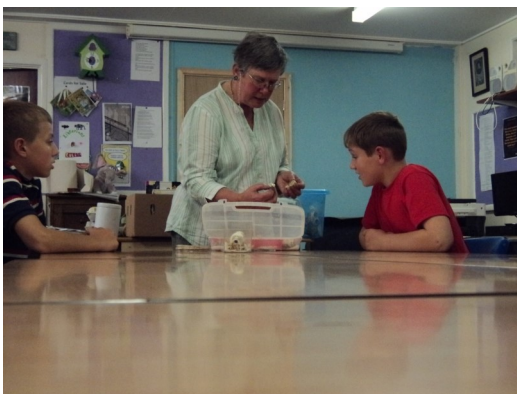
Young Farmers Club



The Young Farmers has started at a fair lick, with 32 boys signing up at our first meeting. Since then our numbers have risen to over 50.

We have been very lucky with speakers this half term, with Mrs Wendy Welland, sharing her enthusiasm for the collecting of animal skulls. Next was Mrs Julia Birchall-Mann speaking about BASC (British Association for Shooting and Conservation). Mr Dave Gibbons, his son Tim and Office Manager Shirley ran a 'questions and answers' evening based around the contracting and construction side of agriculture. A visit from an Old Boy, Mike Fry, who joined the school during its second year proved an eye opener for some of the younger boys, as he revealed tales of stone picking on one of the fields, sleeping in dormitories' of 20 boys and only being allowed to go home on a Sunday after church, having to be back later that evening; some of the tales were met with audible gasps! Finally, we welcomed the return of the very popular James Green, talking about water fowling, what and when to shoot and how to go about it.

There will be no meeting in the second week back, as some boys from YFC will be helping out with the Somerset Federation of Young Farmers AGM, being held in the school on the Wednesday before. (Miss Bradford)



Message from the Head Boy

As the end of the Autumn half-term approaches us, I would like to reflect on the successful few weeks all of the boys have had. All the new Year 7s and 9s have settled in well and most have thrown themselves into everything Brymore has to offer, something which cannot be praised enough. My senior student leadership team (SSLT) have started the term well, with lots of trial prefects being added to the rotas. There have been a few teething problems, which we have looked to improve through fortnightly meetings. In particular, we have increased the emphasis on 'out of bounds' patrols and I would like to take this opportunity to remind boys that there is a good reason for this—we want boys to be safe and within earshot, should the fire alarm ring. Last year's SSLT did a great job in ensuring boys remained on site and my team hope to continue this.

I always look forward to the cross country and harvest festival services; which are a different system this year than in the past to allow more parents to fit in the church. This half term has been a fantastic start to the year which I hope will continue. (Joe Parkman)

Macmillan Fundraising

We held our own Big Coffee Morning in aid of Macmillan and the dining room was awash with cakes for boys and staff to buy. Staff and families donated cake by the truck load and with everyone heading to the dining hall to purchase something from the coffee morning it turned out to be quite a fundraiser! We paid in over £140 to this worthy cause and the cakes really were delicious so it truly was a win-win situation! (Ms Warren)



BRYMORE LOTTERY

The results of the lottery for this half term

1st Mrs M Warren £40.00

2nd Mr M Fry £25.00

3rd Mrs M Colwill £15.00

Farm News

The boys have had a busy half term down on the farm, with lots of practical activities to get involved in. Our new Year 7 boys have had their first sessions as part of their carousel and have looked into animal welfare and health and safety. The Year 8 boys have visited Cannington Grain, the biggest in the south west, which is run by current parent Mr John Collins. The Year 10s and 11s have been involved in sponging the ewes and pre-movement TB testing whilst the Year 9s are



starting their tractor driving!

We have had 4 calves (2 bull calves and 2 heifer calves) this half term to Millie, Primrose, Harmony and Cowslip. Cow 99 was also due to calve but after spending all day calving with no success, the vet was called and an emergency caesarean section performed; some boys were around to see this which is great experience as it doesn't happen every day. Unfortunately, the calf had not formed properly and was stillborn. The mother is now recovering in the beef shed. In happier news, all of our cows (other than the ones that have calved) are pregnant!

We have a new system of doing our own milk recording and once a month a member of staff from NMR (national milk records) comes to the farm to process all of the data, undertake health checks and just ensure all is well with the yield.

We had pre-movement testing on 4 cows; 2 to

be sent to market imminently and 2 that will be shown at the fatstock show in November. All passed and the new cattle handling system made moving the animals much easier.

We are delighted to say that local resident Freda Day has allowed us the use of her field which is adjacent to our fields near the drive; all very useful for the sheep and cattle so a big thank you to Freda.

We have had two litters of piglets this half term. The first was from one of our young gilts, who produced seven young ones followed by Actress who gave us ten piglets.

We have sponged 60 ewes in total (a process to ensure they all cycle at the same time) with 20 done one week and the further 40 the week after. This process allows us to predict when they will start lambing and time this for certain lambing weekends when boys will help through the night with the process—a real 'hands on' opportunity to learn! The rams: Ronnie (Texel), Sammy (Suffolk), Charlie (Charolais) and Maverick (Kerry) are now all having a rest in the fields following their very busy weekends! (Ms Warren and Mrs Whyte)



Boarding

Boarding has had a busy start to the year. For the first time in the school's history, we now have boarding houses bustling with boys from Year 7 all the way up to Year 12. There is clearly a different energy to the boarding houses, with increased numbers over the past few years, combined with an injection of the youthful exuberance which Year 7s and 8s bring to any room...

The sense of community and family bond between boys has only grown stronger, with older boys taking on the role of 'mentor' to younger boys, while others just take it upon themselves to look out for the interests and wellbeing of the younger boys.

A key focus this year has been the continued development of the mentoring program at Brymore within boarding. Year 7s, 8s (School House and Reid House) and 9s are being given a personal development session each week in their dorms, delivered by their mentors. This has not only allowed senior boys within the house to take on the responsibility of supporting and encouraging younger boys, as has been the case in previous years at Brymore, but has enhanced the education and development of our boys.

Boys have been keeping active through participating within the vast range of extra-curricular activities on offer throughout the week and weekends. Boys have continued to enjoy traditional activities such as fitness, Chads and rugby, in combination with a large number of boys taking the opportunity to participate in new activities such as Lego club, darts and night bike track.

Both staff and boys have enjoyed spending time together outside of Brymore at the weekends, with trips to bowling, Cinema, Brean Leisure Park, Minehead Eye Skate Park and paint balling, all being very popular and a welcome rest at the end of some very busy weeks for all.

Boarding continues to be at the heart of Brymore. Many positive changes have been, and will continue to be driven by boys working with staff to ensure that the boarding experience for both boarders and outboarders continues to be excellent. A sense of inclusion and belonging being at its core, boarding has seen many changes over the past few years, with both the introduction of younger boys, new staff and new buildings. One constant that has remained the same is the ability of both staff and boys to create a tight community, where all feel valued, respected and empowered to achieve more than they could possibly have imagined. (Mr Watts)

LRC

The LRC is proving very popular at breaks and lunch times and as it's not cold or wet at the moment; it must be because the boys wish to read—mostly magazines and texts on their phones or tablets, but reading they are.

There have been a few changes since the end of last year. Over a thousand books have been removed from the shelves; the majority of these books had not been issued in over 20 years, were out of date or had more than one copy of the same book. This has given more space to move the fiction books in and has allowed me to catalogue and put out on the shelves books that before there was no space for.

Issuing of books is up again over the same period as last year. This intake of sevens and nines are keener in returning! Sadly, there are over 40 books still out there in bedrooms or in bags that should have been returned at the beginning of term. On the plus side, I did last week receive a book that was 221 days overdue – must have been a good read! So, if your son has a Brymore book at home, please get him to bring it back after half term. (Miss Bradford)

Renovation Works

We recently bid for a grant from central government and were successful to the tune of £160,000. Due to the type of grant and the restrictions on this we can only spend it as specified and we are now renovating what is known as the Horticulture (horti) block. It is the slightly older brick buildings between the old dining hall and the start of the path up to the walled garden. Having not had any renovations since it was built many moons ago, the whole block needs re-roofing to ensure it is water tight. The wooden joists also need to be replaced, repointing works need to be done, all of the windows and doors need replacing, alongside plastering the ceilings in the office space and store rooms, where necessary.



In addition to the essential works that need carrying out, we will also be installing roof lights and there will be new light fittings throughout the whole block, ensuring student and staff safety, especially during the dark winter nights. Meanwhile, we are installing hand washing facilities in the potting shed for hygiene reasons. The project went out to tender and local building firm, Woodlands, who worked with us on the successful completion of the new dining hall, were drafted in to work on this renovation for us. The completion of this work is scheduled for Christmas and so when everyone comes back after the festive break the, scaffolding will have been removed and a fresh block will emerge! (Ms Warren)

Sponsorship

We have been very lucky over the last few months with donations and sponsorship for the school.

Mr Williams and Mr Spridgens were over the moon that Sedgemoor Tree Services chose to sponsor the first XV rugby team. The boys are now looking smart and playing well on the pitch and wearing their Brymore shirt with pride. In addition, Mr Williams has managed to secure a deal so that boys within Years 9, 10 and 11 can purchase replica tops, which they then can keep.

Many parents and boys will remember Mr Oliver Mahon, a student at Brymore, one time Deputy Head Boy and then a member of staff, who departed last year to return to his home city. Oliver has very kindly ordered and paid for new tackle bags, which he donated to the PE department and which the boys have been making good use of.

We recently bought two Kerry ewes from market at Sedgemoor Auction Centre and the gentleman we bought them from also donated us a third ewe lamb. The farm would like to extend its grateful



thanks to Mr Andy Blizzard for his kindness and we look forward to breeding from the ewes in the future.



Finally, we'd like to thank Martin Tapp, Old Brymorian, for donating a 3D printer, which we hope will be up and running soon...

(Ms Warren)



YOUNG SHOTS

DRIVEN GAME DAY

21ST NOVEMBER 2015

CORNWALL

Beat one/shoot one
Mentors
With or without certificate

Guns must be:-
BASC YS members
13 years or older
Have shotgun shooting experience.
Preference to those who have attended a BASC YS
Progression Day

There are only 12 spaces available for this fantastic
opportunity

Pasties will be served at lunchtime

£40 per YS

Contact BASC SW on southwest@basc.org.uk or
01884 260 910



Young Shots

Shotgun Progression Day

Wednesday 28th October 2015

Purbeck Shooting School, Dorset

Progression days are designed to improve your
clay shooting and increase your confidence
with shotguns and the legislation surrounding
them

Days are made up of presentations,
Q&A, practical work and 2 hours coached clay
shooting

£40 BASC members £45 non-members

Contact BASC SW on southwest@basc.org.uk
or 01884 260 910



YOUNG SHOTS

FERRETING DAY

Thurs 29th October 2015

10 am - 3pm

Introduction to the exciting but skilful art of catching
rabbits with ferrets.

All kit supplied

Only 8 spaces available for this exciting opportunity

10 years +

£10 members £15 non members

Contact BASC SW on southwest@basc.org.uk

or 01884 260 910



Student Council

The newly elected student council had their first meeting on Tuesday 6th October. The council is made up of twenty members, with roles being assigned to all. It features a mix from all years. The chairman this year is Ed Templeman (Year 11), with the Vice Chair Henry Scott (Year 10). The Assistant Vice will be Finn Reeson (Year 10) whose role entails taking minutes and making meeting agendas.

The student in charge of Student Voice will be Cameron Kinch; Cameron will be checking our new 'suggestions box' regularly and reporting back any ideas. The other members are Lewis Holmes and Charlie Wilson, who make up the boarding group; Cameron Weldon and George Clay, who are the school site group; Jack Mills and Harry Taylor-Page, who are the technology group; Billy Taylor, Jake Knight, Nick Payne and Harrison Scott, who make up our food group; Olla Hawthorne, Tyrone Pickersgill and Jack Thompson who are the activities group, and lastly Arthur Butt and Basil Davis, who make up the school development group. All of these groups will take on board what the boys ideas are, and will focus on improving that specific area.

The main things the council already have in mind to work on this year is the school food, and also the changing rooms—especially the agri ones. Also, any other issues that boys bring up. Hopefully, we can really make a difference.

(Henry Scott Vice-Chairman)



Shows

We have attended and had a good presence at the Frome Show and the RBST (Rare Breeds Survival Trust) show this half term. Boys have been helping with showing and stewarding, with much success and we look forward to doing this more and more.

At the Frome Show there was lots to celebrate, with Brooks Carey and Archie Hill doing extremely well in their classes. Brooks gained 6 rosettes including 2nd, 3rd and 4th place, while Archie was awarded with Champion and Reserve Champion in his classes and achieved Reserve Champion overall.

At the RBST Show, boys were asked by many exhibitors to help show their sheep and current parents Mr and Mrs Brown were kind enough to let Ben Clay show their breed of Herdwick. In fact, they ended up being overall Grand Champion!

As always, the boys gave the best impression of the school and behaved superbly.

(Ms Warren)



FOBSA

It only seems like 5 minutes ago that we were dropping boys off on the first day of the new school year. Some of you, like me, are into our final year at Brymore, others just starting out.

Firstly, thank you to all those who helped FOBSA at the Open Day this year & to those who came along and purchased stuff. For the first time ever we completely sold out of food & raised a substantial amount of money.

FOBSA is run by parents for the benefit of the boys. All the money made goes back, at some point, into the school and at the moment the biggest commitment is to Activities Week - our donation to this keeps the cost to you to around 50%. This year I would like to look at whether we can in some way support the regeneration of the three lakes – yes, there are three & they were big enough to go sailboarding on!

We need your support at events, whether it be providing cakes & soup to sell, buying those refreshments, or giving up a small amount of time to help set up/serve/clear down.

Currently the Chair, Treasurer & Secretary are all Year 11 parents, so after July our boys are gone. The Vice Chair & some of our most active help haven't had children in the school for three or four years & whilst we are all prepared to remain in post for the 2015/16 year, we really need new people to take over in September 2016 as we strongly believe that committee members need to be parents of current students. So, if you would like to become part of the committee, or put someone forward, now is the time to start thinking about it.

We are aiming to hold the annual AGM shortly into the next half term and will publish the date as soon as it is set – please come along and join us and let us know your ideas.

Next term will also see the annual Bingo evening, which I gather is very popular with the local villages, but it would be lovely to see some more parents there. If you don't have a long journey, how about having a meal in one of the local pubs, then coming back for two fat ladies or legs eleven! If you really can't join us, we would be grateful to receive items for the raffle and prizes.

Last but not least, we like pre-loved uniform and so do you, judging by the amount sold on Open Day - so if you have any 'good condition' uniform that is now the wrong size, please consider passing it back to us to aid fundraising.

Happy Half Term Holiday to you all.

Julia,

Chair, FOBSA



Ploughing Match

Brooks, Lee and Billy all took part in the annual ploughing match organised by the Bridgwater Agricultural Society. If you've ever tried ploughing in a ruler-straight line, then I'm sure you'll all agree it isn't easy—especially with an audience—but all of our boys held their nerve and Brooks took the overall first place! Billy came 3rd and Lee 4th, which, given the standard of entrants was a top achievement—well done boys and a big thank you to Mr Kingston who took them!

(Ms Warren)

English Schools National Championships

Year 10 boy, Herb Elliott, is proudly displaying his bronze medal from the English Schools Championships. Herb was crowned 3rd best racewalker, after being selected to represent Somerset after months of gruelling competitions.

In fact, four students from Brymore were selected to represent Somerset in the prestigious English Schools National Championships. In the race-walking, George Clay was placed fifth, while sadly, Charlie Wilson was unplaced due to an injury. In the combined events, ex-student George Watts performed brilliantly.



The Championships, which were held in Bedford, hold a special place for Brymore, with Alex Wright, a previous student and Britain's number one racewalker, having won in 2007.

Mr Williams, who took all the boys up to the Championships over the weekend, says that 'each of the boys has worked tirelessly to be the best they can. Herb coming away with a bronze was a dream come true for him and we have high hopes of them all continuing to do the school and themselves proud'. (Ms Warren)

Open Mornings

We threw open our doors to potential students and their parents on two Saturdays this half term for the Open Mornings. Boys, as always, were enthusiastic and keen to show off their school and proudly toured families around the whole site. We had over 80 families attending over the two mornings - another indication that we are heavily oversubscribed and securing our belief that what we are offering is unique and in demand. (Ms Warren)



Sports News

Rugby

Attendance at practice for all 5 year groups continues to rise; the year 10 team in particular are achieving some very good results against strong oppositions. The success of all teams is due to the help given by various staff from all areas of work at Brymore; without them, we would struggle to put out all five teams.



Hockey

Mr Sawyer continues to hold hockey practice on a Thursday night after school. This is now open to all boys who wish to play hockey.

Athletics

At the beginning of term four boys went to Bedford to represent Somerset in the English schools combined events and race walking championships. George Watts placed 31st in the inter boys Octathlon, narrowly missing out on his personal best score. Herb Elliott, Charlie Wilson and George Clay took part in the 3000m race walk. Herb Elliott being the highest place finisher in Somerset in 3rd place.



Chads hill run

On returning from the summer holiday, it was found that the Chads hill run could still take place. The new year 9s in particular have certainly taken up the challenge.

Fitness

The evening fitness sessions continue to be well attended, with all boys expected to take part. Year 8 (Monday) and year 7 (Tuesday) take place at 4:30pm in order to help with day boy transport. The percentage of boys attending fitness stands in the high 90s.

Wheelchair basketball

Mr Williams has been working with local sports partnership, SASP, and Haygrove School to secure some 'Projectability' funding. This has been used specifically to purchase wheelchairs for basketball purposes and during the half term we will be collecting the wheelchairs, so that boys can have a chance to experience this sport.

Boccia

This is still proving popular amongst some of the boys at lunchtimes and we are hopeful for more success in Boccia competitions this academic year. Thanks go to Mr Williams and some of his sports leaders that help run the sessions.

Can I take the opportunity to remind you that for PE and Games lessons all boys should by now be kitted out with the correct kit. Can you please make sure this kit is well named. Thanks. (Mr Spridgens)

Congratulations Brymore Boys of 2015

Brymore's class of 2015 have truly proved themselves to be the most successful year group yet. Not only did they match last year's efforts, with outstanding levels of progress in English and among the highest grades in Design Technology, Agriculture and Horticulture in County but this year group have surpassed previous years, achieving the highest percentage of 5A*-C grades, including English and Maths in the school's history – more than doubling last year's. They also achieved an unprecedented number of A grades and A*s in Maths, where results have soared to 60%, making it likely that the department will improve on last year's achievement of being in the top 15% of Maths departments nationally, and are now likely to rank even higher. Last year's excellent Science grades were maintained, with a marked increase in other areas, such as Art – up to 80% C grade and above and PE, whose results have more than doubled on last year. Mr Thomas said 'What makes us so proud of these boys in particular, is knowing that their ability profile is no different from previous years – and yet they have done so well. As ever, they have proved that if you work hard and expect more, you achieve more. I'd like to thank the dedicated staff in each area who have worked tirelessly with the boys both in school and out of school, in the evenings and at weekends to ensure that they got the best possible grades they could. It truly has been a team effort'.

Special congratulations go to Bertie Mountford, who aside from being Deputy Head boy managed to achieve a string of A grades and Distinctions in many areas. He is joined in this achievement by Taylor Weatherby, who achieved A*s in DT and Maths, with an A in Science and Distinctions in Horticulture and Engineering. Boys did particularly well in History this year, with a number achieving A grades for the first time, including Arthur Chandler, who also achieved As in DT and Maths, with Distinctions in Horticulture and Engineering.

Yet what makes Brymore unique is the incredible achievements made by all the boys, regardless of ability. Several students made more than 5 levels of progress to achieve C grade and above across a range of subjects. This is a tribute to their hard work and determination to succeed. Such boys include Daniel Holter-Hovind, Will Sully, Rob Kerr, Will Loftus, Elliott Milne, Jake Puddy, Andrew Vickery, Cameron Wallace, James West, Elliott Reed, Will Rhodes, Frazier Perry, Harry Hanse, Aaron Hold, Silas Lawson (who also achieved an A in DT and a B grade in English), Chris Tipper and many more. Finally, we would like to congratulate Charlie Herbert who overcame enormous odds to achieve B grades in Agriculture, English, History, Science and Maths with Distinction* in Horticulture. More than anyone he exhibits the Brymore spirit of Resilience, Responsibility and Resourcefulness. We are truly proud of all the boys in this year group and wish them every success and happiness in future. (Mrs Davis)



Cross Country and Harvest Festival

Another beautiful autumn day dawned and families came in their droves, to watch our annual Cross Country event; a change from previous years, when we held the Harvest Festival in the mornings, but nonetheless equally as enthralling, passion filled and exciting.

The day began with the Year 11 boys race, which was won by Harry Taylor-Page; next the Year 10 boys race was won by Will Jarman; Harry Meade took the Year 9 crown, with William Walsh taking the Year 8 top place; finally, the Year 7 winner was Louis Liddle. FOBSA were 'on hand' with soup and hot drinks to keep everyone warm, and our thanks go out to them for their help and to Mr Spridgens for organising the whole event.



We then moved down to the church in Cannington for the first of our Harvest Festivals for the Upper school. After much deliberation, we decided to split the services, to fit in the church and to ensure we had enough space for families to come along, to participate and to hear their boys read. A beautiful autumnal service of thanksgiving followed, and once the crowds of Year 9, 10 and 11 had dispersed, it was time for the Year 7 and 8s, who ran an equally uplifting Harvest Festival celebration. Our thanks go to Mr Willcocks for working tirelessly to ensure that boys were reading and that they were confident in doing so in front of a large audience. It is so lovely to see so many families supporting the boys and the school as a whole and we look forward to seeing you all at our next event. (Ms Warren)



IT information

With regards to IT I need to let all parents and students know that because of potential security risks, it is not possible to connect from a Windows XP device. If you have any questions then please do not hesitate to ask. (Mrs Porter)

GCSE PE

Please can all GCSE PE students ensure that they are completing and working on their PEP over the holidays and at weekends. Thank you. (Mr Williams)

Upcoming Important Dates

2015 BRYMORE'S UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 2 November

INSET DAY

3.30pm - 5.00pm Years 7 & 9 Parent Consultation with Tutors and Heads of House

Year 11 Academic Progress with SLT (selected students only)

6.00 pm - 9.00pm Years 8, 10 & 11 Boarders return

Tuesday 3 November 8.30 am - All out-boarders return

Saturday 21 or 28 November (tbc) FoBSA Bingo

Saturday 12 December Times to be confirmed
Christmas Services at St Mary's Church, Cannington
Years 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 depart for Christmas Holidays

14-20 December Ski Trip to Italy

Friday 18 December Year 12 depart for Christmas

Sunday 3 January Year 12 return

Monday 4 January

INSET DAY

3.30 pm - 5.00 pm Year 11 Parent Consultation

Years 7, 8, 9 & 10 boarders return

Tuesday 5 January 8.30 am - All out-boarders return

Saturday 6 February 4.00 pm

Years 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 depart for Spring half-term

Friday 12 February Year 12 depart for Spring half-term

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