

Brymore

experience to last a lifetime

Newsletter

July 2018

www.brymoreacademy.co.uk

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Message from the Headteacher

A few years ago many of you may remember we launched a campaign against the Government's decision to remove agriculture and horticulture from the league tables. Despite getting a lot of attention, meeting many M.P.'s, gaining television and radio coverage and Brymore actually being raised in parliament we did not manage to change their decision. At the time I was disappointed as I thought it showed how both subjects were viewed and that it gave a clear message that they were not important at a school level. I was therefore shocked and delighted recently when I learned that our bid for additional funding to the Educational Funding Agency was successful. It now means that nearly £600 000 will be invested into a new farm building at Brymore to house a new milking parlour and a purpose built classroom for teaching agriculture. This sort of investment has long been overdue and it means that the boys will finally have the farm they deserve as the current building certainly needs replacing. This also shows that officials at the Education Funding Agency do believe in the importance of agriculture and I hope this cements the future of the farm for many years to come.

This is also the first newsletter since our Ofsted inspection back in March. Many thanks to all the parents who completed the online survey and it is safe to say I was pleased with the outcome of 'good'. I feel the following statement sums up the school perfectly: *'Improving the life chances of all your pupils is at the very centre of your work. The school is distinguished by its inclusive approach, which ensures that no pupil is left behind. There is a caring and supportive ethos. The combination of a traditional academic curriculum, coupled with a very successful practical and vocational programme, is highly effective.'* Following on from the inadequate boarding inspection two years ago I was also pleased that safeguarding was highlighted as a strength in this report which stated: *'You and other leaders, supported by well-trained governors, teachers and other staff, have created a strong culture of safety which permeates every aspect of school life.'* As a school it means we should not now be inspected for at least three years, however the boarding team should return next year.

As I said at the swimming gala, I would like to thank all parents for their support this year whether it is through supporting their son individually or supporting the school as a whole. Parental support at key events such as sports day and the swimming gala continues to be very strong and I am particularly thankful for their patience, understanding and support through the process of moving to a five day week. I am very aware this is a key change for Brymore and I will continue to defend the traditions and ethos of the school strongly, just as we fought for the status of agriculture and horticulture a few years ago. The Ofsted report also stated that the boys are proud of their school. I too am immensely proud of Brymore and all that it stands for as it is truly a special place for students and staff alike.

I hope all boys and staff enjoy a well-deserved holiday and are able to make the most of the time spent together as a family and I look forward to welcoming all new and existing boys back in September.

Have a good holiday!



Horticulture

It's been a very busy term in our department so my first line must be a dedicated thanks to all horticulture staff and parents for helping and supporting on Open Day. We were run off our feet with lots sold but still more contact us any time.

The boys have spent lots of time picking and harvesting fruit, rhubarb, potatoes (lots of them!), beans, courgettes (marrows), along with potting up hanging baskets and sifting through loads of plants. Boys have been very busy on their plots and boxes of produce have gone home which we hope will be enjoyed by the families. We took Year 8s to Westhay Moor to look at the peat regeneration project there. We also took Year 7s to Team Green Growers strawberry farm and we are very grateful to Mr Richard Winter for showing us around, allowing us to pick strawberries and to bring some back to school too.

Plenty of watering has happened particularly during the after school duties. Our Year 8s finish their garden duties, which I'm sure they'll be happy with and the best scores, getting almost 100%, were Todd Lye, Zak Warton-Browne and Will Wescott.

There is a letter which has gone to all of next years' Year 8 parents for them to choose their garden duty evening. It is important that these are returned so that where possible we can give boys the duty night that fits their other activities. I may not be able to absolutely give everyone their first choice because I must have even numbers on the four nights of garden duties. The boys must remember that these duties are a part of the Brymore experience and it is essential they are attended. Boys who work hard and get 10/10 for effort will get merits and three boys from this year will be getting awards.

All boys must also have steel toe-capped boots (dealers) or wellingtons, overalls and old or casual clothes to wear under the overalls, and also have wet weather clothes and warm clothes which, as always, must be named.

Thanks to HoDs for all their help and especially to Harry Weaver for his help with creating and maintaining the duty rota.

Doris, the compact tractor, and the old Westwood mower were sold and a new John Deere mower bought to replace them. Thanks to Mr Anderson

for his support and help on Saturday activity, the trolley will now be out on Friday evenings instead.

The wild flower meadow is a real success and looks amazing, increasing the amount of insects in the walled garden. Please pop along and see it when you are next around because it really is lovely to look at as well as helping with biodiversity in the area. You may have noticed our rustic table and bench erected outside the LRC this was funded by FoBSA, for which we are grateful, the area will also be paved in the Autumn.

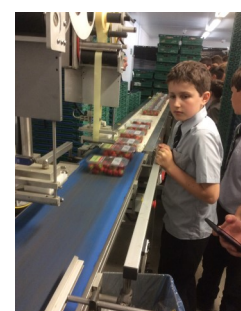
We have continued to go to Spaxton Apiary on a fortnightly basis, where Ken Edwards has taught the boys how to keep themselves safe, handle the bees in the hive, recognise and mark drones, recognise both the Queen bee and Queen bee cells. We have checked the school hives and introduced swarms into their new homes. If boys are regular attendees and confident, they can work towards their Beekeepers Award. We have learnt about diseases and bee enemies, how to feed the bees and we have tried some honey and hope to be able to learn how to extract honey too. New beekeepers will be welcomed next spring when we begin a new season. In the Autumn when we return we shall be looking at honey extraction and getting the hives ready for winter.



We are lucky to have Jo Meatyard and Julie Mitchell helping in the department. Both have considerable experience and can work with and help the boys in their practical lessons. Many, many thanks to Mrs Stanley for all she does.

We have planted up the planters in the village again this year for Cannington in Bloom and the whole village is trying for gold again.

We look forward to seeing you ready for work in September. (Mr Willcocks)



Young Farmers Club



Our Spring session went well. Ollie Mahon who is on the Committee for the Old Brymorian's came in a day early and spoke to the boys about his job at Monkton School in Bath, where he is a Groundsman at the pre prep school. The slides showing the tractors, leaf blowers, line markers, AstroTurf sweepers, brought about a large feeling of jealousy. Real tractor envy!

The following week, back to the Wednesday evening and the Somerset YFC Road Show, Josh, Wayne and Joy came in and ran an hour of team building and games, great fun was had by all.



The last event of the term saw a welcome return to the school of Richard and Heather Gibson, speaking about the continued work their Charity - Aid for Samburu - is carrying on in North Kenya, supplying clean drinking water for a village and as shown in a recent drought, the surrounding areas; designed to support a village of 650 people the project was able to help a further 1,600 people and animals. The Charity is now fund-raising to support a peripatetic vet who is vaccinating the village dogs and puppies in the hope of eradicating rabies from the area. Brymore YFC were pleased to support them with a donation of £100.

After the Easter Break, our next speaker was Mr John Rowlands from the Environmental Agency who once again, gave a very interesting talk on the role that local farmers have in maintaining the Somerset Levels and how they are working with the agency to ensure there are not the floods of the past. The boys saw maps showing how the landscape has changed over the years with the re-directing of the smaller rivers into the Parrett and the Brue to allow for better drainage and land management. Explaining about the pumping stations and the roles that they play was also fascinating.

The following week was the first of three evenings devoted to preparing the craft entries for the Somerset Young Farmers Rally. The boys and Mr Adamson worked really, really hard to enter as many categories as we could and many of the entries were amazing. The effort that went into making a packed lunch for a cowboy had to be seen to be believed! (I truly believe there should be a class at the rally that is for those who make the entries over two nights, in 3½ hours in total without the help of their parents, then we'd stand a chance)!

The older boys, Years 9 & 10 were lucky enough to be invited to Styles ice-cream at Rodhuish, to see how they produce, flavour and store the wonderful selection, ready for the big events of the year such as the Royal Bath and West Show and Glastonbury, when on. It's very cold in the storage units and the 100% Jamaican white rum takes the lining of your throat just sniffing it - parents don't worry - that was me sniffing not the boys! They were being let loose on the £85,000 ice cream van with a whippy machine. It turns out there is quite an art to filling a cone that not one of the boys mastered. The owner Mr David Baker and two of his staff kindly gave up some of their evening to give us the tour and we are very grateful. He said that he enjoyed speaking to the boys as they knew about milk production, costs and diversification.

We finished that half term with a well contested game of rounders on the fields, organised and umpired by Cameron Kinch. Thank you Cam.

This last half term has been quieter. We had another game of rounders rather than visit Gold Corner Pumping Station.

Next was a lovely evening sitting out under the Acer tree whilst Mrs Wendy Welland showed us how to select wool from a fleece, card the selection and then spin it into yarn. All those who attended had a go at carding and spinning.

Our last outing was to C. Smarts open evening, where a select group of Year 9s and 10s got to wander around and look at the new workshops, not to mention, marvel at and climb all over the brand spanking new John Deere vehicles.

I hope to be able to take more boys on trips out during the next academic year, as Ms Warren has kindly offered to drive a second minibus when she can.

Lastly, mainly due to the increase in fuel costs, the fee for membership from September will be £10.

Over this year Mr Adamson has been dyeing sheep pink to help Brymore YFC raise money for Cancer Research, the girls have been to all the shows with their collection bucket, along with the YFC quizzes, who entered a Cannington Quiz Night at the Friendly Spirit and were allowed to keep the proceeds from the raffle, the raffle of the Hedgehogs and a YFC recipe book (copies still available from the LRC). We can proudly state that so far Brymore YFC has raised **£1,768.98**. Mr Adamson hopes to reach £2,000 by September as he has a couple more shows to attend during the summer.



Thank you to all who have contributed.

And finally the winner of the Hedgehogs is....

Ticket Number 94 - June Wall - please contact me on 01278 652369 or if connected through a student please send him to see me. (Miss Bradford)

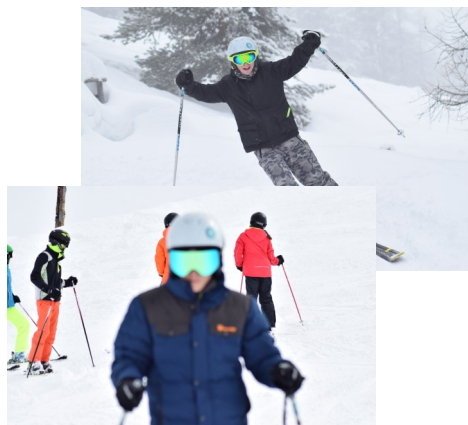


Music

Music lessons have continued this year with a number of boys learning keyboards, drums and guitars. Some are working towards grades. One boy passed an exam this year in keyboards. Well done to Zak Warton-Browne. We will also have a brass teacher next term too. Those who wish to continue must return the forms as soon as possible and those wishing to start lessons need to contact Mr. Willcocks for details. We should have a new drum kit in place in September which will really help and also refurbished guitars too, I hope. FoBSA have kindly given money to enable us to do this, and maybe get other instruments too. (Mr Willcocks)

Ski Trip

The annual ski trip during the Easter holidays was once again a great success for all the boys and staff. The group travelled to Ischgl and spent a glorious week skiing between Austria and Switzerland in fabulous snow conditions. Mr Ashton is busy organising next years' trip which he is hoping will be bigger and better. (Ms Warren)



Sports Report

Sport during the Summer term mostly consists of athletics and cricket peppered with some swimming, softball and rounders. Our athletes have been outstanding and have really shone this year. Firstly a big mention has to go to our Year 11, Tom Dollery, who has excelled in the Javelin. Tom performed brilliantly at the South West Area Athletics event in June to secure himself a spot at the English Schools Athletic Association national finals which took place at the same time as our swimming gala, making for a tense couple of hours waiting for the results for Mr Williams. It was a magical moment for the PE department on finding out that Tom had won the silver medal



and thrown a national standard throw of 59.76m but not only that, he now represents England at a national level. We had four athletes selected for the County team at the South West Championships and these were Tom

(mentioned above), Ed Barnacle, Zaid Elmrabti and Jamie Veale - these boys all performed really well to get into the squad and competed well at every event. Nick Payne and Tom also competed in the South West Combined Events area finals this term which has helped develop their athleticism further.

The Year 7 athletics team qualified for the SASP Summer games finals and did well to come 4th in a strong field. We took lots of boys to help at the SASP Summer games along with teams for the parallel games, benchball and the Run and Shoot event. All boys had a great time and did the school proud over these two days.

Our racewalkers have also achieved great success on the track this season with William Hatch and Rhys Thomas winning their races and William Holter-Hovind coming 2nd, meaning all three have qualified for the national finals in the Autumn.

Cricket has seen a decline in participation in all schools across the area, not just ours. Unfortunately this has had a knock-on effect with less local fixtures but both Mr Williams and I are determined to ensure more matches happen next season and will be looking to get more friends



in the calendar. It would be great to see as many boys as possible getting involved.

The new academic year brings back rugby and all boys are encouraged to go and take part. A tradition at Brymore is not just how good you are at something but a determination to take part and get stuck in counts just as much. (Ms Warren)

Mr Thomas turns fifty!

The whole school managed to keep a special surprise for Mr Thomas' big birthday quiet and he didn't have a clue what was in store! It's fair to say he wasn't a happy fifty year old at the beginning of his big day but he managed a smile as boys sang 'Happy Birthday' in



assembly. The smile got bigger and he became much happier once he realised everyone cared enough to create a carnival atmosphere on the drive as all staff, students and even the farm animals wished him the best on his birthday. (Ms Warren)

LRC

We have added almost 250 new books to the library shelves this year, many of them in the Accelerated Reading Scheme. There has also been an increase of four books to the Poultry Section and a Haynes Manual on the Death Star.

At the same time, we are weeding the reference books and have started with the Art section, 90 so far. Don't worry, Mrs Clark is aware and all the books are going to a local Charity Book Shop - 'Watchet Harbour Community Bookshop'. The charity bookshop raises money for local community groups and also the Cystic Fibrosis Trust, where they have sent over £100,000, in memory of Dr Thomas Woollam who died from this terrible disease before reaching his 30th birthday.

The last snow day allowed me to return over 200 books that had been taken out in the previous weeks mostly for the schools Readathon. I have since closed the library for a day to allow for all the books loaned and then returned to be put back on the shelves

Once again we have been the grateful recipients of donated books, from staff, parents and a local Independent school. These will be placed on the shelves shortly. First I have to make some space which will mean getting rid of books already in the library.

I know this sounds like a contradiction in terms but I shall sort through the stock and many books not issued since 2010 will be donated to the charity shop, excepting the classics. As Librarian I choose just what is a classic. I live in hope that one day a boy will want to read a Dickens or Harper Lee! This weeding will continue throughout the coming year.

I am once again very grateful to FoBSA for a very generous grant to allow me, Mrs Stanley and Mrs Meatyard from the Horticultural Department, along with some boys to completely change the frontage to the LRC. (Miss Bradford)



Message from the Head Boy

It's been a busy half term for me. Taking on the role as Head Boy has not only been a massive change in my school life, but also for my team who have all stepped up and taken on their new roles with enthusiasm and pride. We have managed to take on two new duties this year which is working well and helping keep the younger boys safe.



Everyone has worked hard, especially on the build up to Open Day which was another major success, especially since Taylor (who I happen to be the sports captain for) won the tug of war.

Year 10s completed a week of work experience, which I believe all the boys enjoyed and represented Brymore in the best light. I would like to thank all the Year 9s that stepped up and took on our duties while we were away from school.

At the time of writing, we are currently in the middle of our activity week, which has so far been a success and I'm looking forward to the rest of the week, finishing with our annual Swimming Gala. It's been an emotional rollercoaster this term due to the successes of the athletics team and of course saying goodbye to our Year 11s. I will especially miss them as I was given the opportunity to play in the Year 11 rugby team and along with Tom Faulkner and Harry Mead we managed to be awarded our colours a year early. Last week the new Year 7s came in for the induction day. Although I wasn't part of this process I believe they had a great time. I'm looking forward to meeting them all, especially as the SSLT has been given the honour of mentoring some of the boys next year, which we are hoping will help them settle in to Brymore life.

I am looking forward to my holidays and hoping to be taking a life guarding course and working at a local leisure complex. I hope you all enjoy your holidays too. Relax and enjoy and I'll see you all in September. (Joe Finnis)

Farm News

We are probably not the only ones who are a little short of grass and now eating into next winters forage supply. After clearing out our reserves and having to buy in in the spring this is not what we need. There seems to be no rain or second cut on the horizon either. Seeing all the burnt off grass I am amazed at how the young stock and sheep are happy on their thin pickings!

The lambs are doing as well as can be expected considering that three and a half months ago we were knee deep in snow and now we have had no rain for a month. Quite what we are going to wean them onto I just don't know.

We are hoping that work will commence soon on the new build. This will consist of a new classroom, office and most importantly a new parlour. As the build will go on over the winter, the plan at the moment is to milk a thinned down herd in the cubicles with a mobile milker- it could be a long winter!

We will have some Dairy Shorthorn heifers calving in the spring, hopefully the new build will be ready for them. We will also be looking to buy some more Dairy Shorthorn to increase the herd and get back up to normal, hopefully the Dairy Shorthorn will be the majority. (Mr Kingston)

Readathon

Our annual Readathon for Key Stage 3 boys was initially postponed due to snow but in true Brymore style Mrs Taylor-Lane ensured it was rescheduled and boys did a great job reading all day long. Every lesson allowed time for boys to indulge in reading books, magazines or periodicals and we raised over £400 for charity. (Ms Warren)



Showing

Following on from our success in the show ring last year we have had a very good start to the show season.

Our first event was at the Devon County Show where we just took the Kerry Hill sheep; there was stiff competition being in the 'any other breed' class but we came away with three 1st and one 3rd. On the second day we had a 1st and 2nd in the 'wool on the hoof' class. Boys also did very well in the young handlers with Joe getting a 1st and qualifying for the Young Shepherd of the Year. We also got a 3rd and 4th.

Following on from this we went on to the Bath and West Show and again we had a very good week for the school with sheep, beef cattle and dairy cattle all on show. The sheep, once again did well, collecting a number of rosettes. The dairy cattle also performed nicely with Louie winning his class and then going on to take the reserve champion with an in-calf Shorthorn heifer. The beef cattle were awarded 2nd with Forrester and a 3rd with Albert.

We were involved with the team challenge at the show; a competition aimed at small groups of younger people to show off their skills. The preparation for this had been going on for months before, where boys had to audition and be picked to compete. We entered two teams in beef and one in the dairy. In the beef competition one of our teams won and out of seven teams all of our teams were placed in the top five. In addition, the team that won were also awarded the overall champions when pitched next to the senior age group winners. The dairy team came 3rd but Michael, who was doing the preparation element, got the highest points out of all competitors.

On the Saturday we had boys competing in strong young handler classes in the sheep section and Percy came away with a 3rd and Charlie a 4th. Harrison was awarded a 3rd and also qualified for the East of England Show in December.

The Royal Cornwall Show ended our run of the bigger shows and like Devon we just had sheep going to this show. Similarly to Devon, we were in the 'any other pure breed' class with strong

competition. Our ram lamb was awarded with a 3rd, ewe lamb 2nd and ram 3rd. Some of the boys were lucky enough to meet Prince Charles and show against his sheep.

The following day our shearing ewe won her class in the 'wool on the hoof' and was in the interbreed 'wool on the hoof'. On the last day our students competed in young handlers where Charlie came 5th, Angus 4th and Harrison 3rd. Angus qualified for the East of England Show and Harrison qualified for the Young Shepherd of the Year.

So far it has been a very good season and the boys have again raised the bar even higher. I am very pleased that we will have two boys going to compete for the Young Shepherd of the Year and two for Young Shepherd at the East of England Show. We look forward to the summer shows so look out for us in the ring. Lastly thanks go to everyone, from parents to staff and other exhibitors and sponsors that have been very supportive of the showing. (Mr Adamson)



Diary of an Out-boarder undertaking sport

My Athletics Season 2018

This was my first season of athletics that I have properly competed in and represented Brymore Academy in multiple events. I have been throwing the discus and shot in Years 7 and 8 but this year I was offered the chance to throw the hammer too. Of course I wanted to give it a go. So for this season I have been throwing all three.

Wednesday 9th May - The Sedgemoor Area Athletics trials at Brymore where I threw discus, getting my PB for discus of 29.95m. I also threw the shot and just made it to 1st place getting a new PB of 10.89m.

Saturday 12th May - The Somerset Amateur Athletics Championship at Yeovil. This was one of the first times I threw the hammer this season. It felt good and I came 1st getting a PB of 34.14m. At this event I also competed in shot and discus and came 1st in both which made me a triple county champion!

Wednesday 16th May - The National School Cup at Millfield. In this event I had to do one field and one track event. For my field event I threw the discus getting 28m and for the dreaded track event I did the 100m sprint where I got a time of 15 seconds, which for me is good!

Thursday 24th May - The Mendip Athletics Open at Millfield. At this event I was able to choose three field events so I did discus, shot and long jump. I came 1st in discus getting 26m and also 1st in shot, getting 10m. For long jump (not my favourite thing to do) I got 4m coming 3rd.

Saturday 9th June - The Somerset School County Track & Field Event at Yeovil. I had entered the hammer throw and the discus. The hammer throw went well and I got 1st place getting a distance of 33.28m. I also came 1st in discus getting a distance of 29.26m. After this event I had to wait to see if I would then be selected to represent Somerset schools in an upcoming event for the South-West Schools area. Luckily I managed to be selected for the hammer throw! I was pleased.

Monday 11th June - The Sedgemoor Team Championships at Yeovil. This time I was competing in the discus and shot. I came 1st in both events getting a PB of 31m in the discus.

Saturday 16th June - The South-West Schools Athletics Championship - representing Somerset schools. I wore my Somerset vest with pride. This was the most competitive day of the season. I came 5th in the South-West for hammer throw getting my PB of 36m. I learnt a lot from watching others at this event and can see areas on how I can improve.

I have enjoyed my first season competing for Brymore and Somerset schools. I look forward to next year having completed some over-winter training! (Jamie Veale)



Induction

We welcomed our new Year 7 boys for September at the end of this term with their induction. We feel that it is a great way of introducing the boys to our routines, to each other, to the ways of the school and helps them relax over the summer. The boys arrived in the morning and did a range of activities such as rounders, orienteering and raft building along with some basic testing. The boarders settled for the night whilst the out-boarders went home until early the next day when they came back for some more fun. Alongside the activities and learning more about the school day the new students had the opportunity of integrating with older boys. We felt this all went very well and hope that the families and boys have enjoyed their first taste of being part of the Brymore community. (Ms Warren)



Swimming Gala and End of Year Awards

It proved to be a scorcher for the end of year event and our swimming gala and presentations were attended by many. The starter pistol sounded out and the first race began to much excitement and cheering, with lots of boys given the opportunity to swim regardless of abilities this sports events really was for everyone. Following the culmination of the relays boys returned in uniform to see if they'd been awarded any certificates or cups for their endeavours this year. As always, we give to those deserving of awards and some got more than one or two so congratulations to those working outstandingly in order to deserve the nomination. Our grateful thanks go to FoBSA for providing refreshments and to Mr Williams and Mr Spridgens for organising the gala itself. A great way to end the academic year for staff, parents and boys. (Ms Warren)

| AWARD | WINNERS | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| | YEAR 7 | YEAR 8 | YEAR 9 | YEAR 10 |
| Agriculture | Percy Clatworthy | Freddy Perham | Archie Hooper | Lysander Allen-Skinner |
| Art | Aidan Grandfield | Joseph Fear | Jadan Calladine | Cameron Kinch |
| Business Studies | - | - | - | Oliver Spence |
| Computing | Henry Mills | Todd Lye | Declan Tolfree | Sam Sarachi |
| Design & Technology | Alex Huxley | Sam Sleep | Marley Scriven | Oliver Spence |
| Engineering | - | - | - | Alex Christophers |
| English | Adam Priest | Thomas Allen | Jadan Calladine | Matthew Tyler |
| Geography | Bevan Webber | Thomas Allen | Ben Rexworthy | Harvey Reading |
| History | Brandon Perkins | George Davis | Sebastian Ritchie | Connor Bishop |
| Horticulture | Brandon Perkins | Todd Lye Zak Warton-Browne | William Holter-Hovind | Toby Ranson |
| Mathematics | Thomas Sweeney | Todd Lye | Thomas Marchent-Saunders | Timothy Cook |
| PE | Henry Mills | Joseph Fear | Jamie Veale | Arthur Baker |
| PSHRE | Dylan Carreras-Bennett | William Ingram | Rhys Anderson | Cameron Kinch |
| Science | Harry Hardwill | Austin Doble | William Hatch | Arthur Light |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Philip Prince Cup | Dedicated effort | Jon Grimoldby |
| Growers Cup | Work on individual plot | Drew Wotton |
| Fiddington Shield | Progress and improvement in Senior Cricket | Bradley Corkrey |
| TE Awamutu award for junior rugby | Junior rugby | Ben Rexworthy |
| 535 American Veterans Award | Creative Endeavour | William Febrey (Year 10) |
| Martyn Knox Trophy | Chad's Hill runs | Alex Jennings |
| Apatu Shield | Team award | Year 7 Athletics: Captain - Joshua Payton Alex Jennings Leathan Jennings Brandon Perkins |
| Victor Ludorum | Excellent effort in Rugby and Athletics | Nicholas Payne |
| The Holter-Hovind Cup | Overcome significant challenge (not specifically academic) | Toby Newbury- Barlow |
| Governors' Award | Overall contribution to Brymore | Cameron Kinch |

Marines

The Marines paid us a visit to help the Year 10 boys with some team activities and to help enhance their fitness levels. Boys were split into different activities and even got to try the ration packs, which proved very popular! (Ms Warren)



Head Boy Presentations

During March the rumbles start throughout the school as to who will be going for Head Boy and also who might get it. The candidates all handed in their applications to Mr Winter and then stood up in front of the whole school to undertake their presentation; a nerve wracking and rigorous process for every boy braving it and one that the school gets a vote on. Once the presentations are complete they then go through formal interviews. All boys did brilliantly and Mr Thomas could not praise them more highly. Joe Finnis was made Head Boy, with Cameron Kinch and Oliver Spence his deputies along with Harrison Scott, Nick Payne and Ben Trim as Assistant Head Boys. (Ms Warren)



Sad News

We have received the sad news that Malcolm Coates, the former Groundsman here at Brymore has passed away after a long illness.

Malcolm will be remembered by many of the boys who were here between 2001 and 2011 as a very jovial character who happily worked with many of the boys in the lessons, showing them how to mow lawns, maintain machinery, coppice and manage the woods and a whole host of other skills. His mode of transport (because he lived in the village) was his grey Fergie, always an attraction and a point of conversation with the students. He took great pride in his work and worked long and hard in the run up to Open Day each year. He always went over and beyond and took home tools to be mended or projects to be worked on. Before coming to Brymore Malcolm had lectured in mechanics at Cannington College and many years previously he had been in the army, both of which afforded many stories for the boys.

He has been sorely missed since he retired to look after his uncle who was then in poor health, but he maintained a contact with the school through the poppy appeal boxes and wreathes which he supplied.

We send our condolences to his wife Sheena and the family. (Mr Willcocks)

Engineering/DT

What I love about these activities is seeing the students start to get to grips with the techniques involved and achieving some really nice work. In engineering we have seen another student finish their pneumatic engine to a high standard so well done to Jamie Veale and we have had some Year 8s start this very demanding project, so well done to Sam Sleep and Zander Smith. Tool making has turned out some fine bottle openers and some excellent engineers squares.

Woodwork has seen many more tool boxes and country boxes finished to a high standard, along with the first spice rack projects going home, so well done to Harry Atkinson, Josh Catherall and Alan Mead. We have also had some great work turned out by Charles Grossey with his last project of a small router table. Well done to all the boys taking part in the evening activities that I run this year. (Mr Ball)



FoBSA

Well where has that time gone....another great year of fundraising. Yet again we, as a team, have raised a massive £9,506.77. This happened through a number of events like Chads Hill run, sports day, two bingo evenings, Lambing Day, Open Day and swimming gala.

With money raised we have managed to buy the following:

Sports bibs £186.95

Sports bags £15.40

Tents £500.00

Year 11 leavers gifts £2,736.00 (few years stock to keep us going)

Donation to the LRC £1,000.00

Donation to the Horticulture department £1,000.00

Homework App for the science department £400.00

Donation towards activities week £5,000.00

Maths outdoor learning tables £795.46

DT department moulds £850.00

Contribution towards running vests with a donation from Brymore Old Boys £435.00

Total £12,918.81

Thank you for your support. This is from baking cakes, supplying goods for the tombola and buying the refreshments at the events we run. We are always looking for different ways to raise the extra funds that the school needs for the boys to experience the best they can.

Remember everyone is welcome at our meetings. We are always looking to make new friends. Please like our Facebook page FoBSA (Friends of Brymore). This will be used a lot more this coming year to communicate with boys and their families. Happy holidays, Kate and team (Kate Atyeo - Chair of FOBSA)

Forest School

What a great term in Forest School we have had. The students have been making whistles galore. The determination to make the whistles work was excellent so well done to all the students and staff. We also enjoyed our last sessions making dens and warming through marshmallows over the fire which was a lovely end to our memorable year of Forest School. (Mr Ball)



Archery

There have been some excellent skills shown in archery in this terms sessions. The boys really got to grips with the technique. The students enjoyed using various different targets including Pool / Darts and Card Games all with their archery equipment, along with the usual balloons and the odd chocolate bar to shoot at and win. And a special shout out to Joseph Stephenson for consistent archery throughout. (Mr Ball)

Chads

This year has been exceptional with regard to the number of Chads runs - 6,012 by the 314 boys who are or have been Brymore boys in the last year.

There have been 32 weeks in Brymore's school year. Each boy agrees to run one Chads a week; there have been 43 boys who have run over the required 32. In fact, these same 43 boys have run a total of 2,320.

Thirteen Year 7s have run 927; seven Year 8s have run 341; nine Year 9s have run 458, nine Year 10s have run 385 and four Year 11s, with the pressures of exams, ran 209.

In total, Year 7 - 1,684; Year 8 - 1,033; Year 9 - 1,155; Year 10 - 1,259 and Year 11 - 881.

Brymore Staff have run 326, with guest runners - parents, brothers, sisters, aunties, uncles, children and a dog - 67!

In total 6,405 pairs of feet have pounded around the route, in the heat, the cold, the rain and even snow.

House totals are as follows:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Galsworthy | 1,778 |
| Taylor | 2,197 |
| Walker | 2,032 |

Thank you to those parents of out-boarders who waited until their sons had run to pick them up or slowed down and stopped on the drive until they had passed by.

Can the boys, staff and guests beat this phenomenal total next year? (Mr Spridgens)

Leavers Service

As a school we do our leavers service slightly differently to other state schools and we do go all out to give the boys a send off fitting for a Brymore boy. As with every year, it's emotional for staff, parents and boys in many ways and we all feel great pride in watching those deserving of awards achieving them. The boys will, no doubt, go on and flourish and we look forward to welcoming them back in future to see how they're getting on. (Ms Warren)



| AWARDS | RECIPIENT |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Headteacher's Prize | Archie Walker |
| Brymore Spur | Lewis Atyeo |
| Tony Edwards' Cup | Edward Barnacle |
| Hutson Design Award | Arthur Butt |
| Award for Creative Endeavour | Reuben Webb |
| Outstanding effort in English | Louie Chiswell |
| Outstanding effort in Maths | Patrick Ruell |
| PTA Victor Ludorum | Louie Chiswell |
| Somerset NFU Agriculture Award | Samuel Tull |
| Old Brymorians Agriculture Award | Edward Barnacle |
| Kino Owl Public Spirit Award | Zaid Elmrbati |
| Mark Hill Cup | Rhys Thomas |
| All Blacks jersey for senior rugby | Bertie Powell |
| Troy Plate | Samuel Tull |
| Gary Morgan Cup | Thomas Ashford |
| Engineering Award | Byron Sullivan |
| Cavendish Cup | Samuel Tull |
| BSA Brymore Boarding Cup Societal Cup | Archie Walker |
| Head Boy Award Shield | Daniel Levy |
| The Windows Cup | Louie Chiswell |
| The Ray Culliford Cup | Lewis Atyeo |
| Most Chads | Samuel Tull |
| Zaid Elmrbati Award | Sam Huish |

BRYMORE LOTTERY

The results of the lottery for this term:

May

1st £40 Ms Calladine
2nd £25 Mrs Manchip
3rd £15 Mr Creese

June

1st £40 Mr D Vagg
2nd £25 Mr M Roach
3rd £15 Mr P Gibbin

Country Fair and Open Day

Our annual country fair on the last Saturday in June, brought with it one of the hottest days of the year along with many, many visitors!

In the main ring, a programme of events enthralled the public to rival any local agricultural show. The interactive display by James from BASC and his gundog was excellent, along with the talks about birds of prey being interesting and insightful and with the main arena full of the students showing cattle and sheep in the stock judging, it was a spectacle to behold. Michael Bennett was crowned champion handler this year with Jed Norris second in the cattle show and Percy Clatworthy was overall sheep champion. Toby Ranson was awarded the trophy for most overall effort for his showing and preparation. Grateful thanks go to Mr Mike Yeandle for judging the whole event for us. Around the site the one acre walled garden was open to the public and the horticulture department sold its own plants, vegetables and apple juice, visitors were transported back to the Egyption era in the teaching block, there were exploding experiments for all to try in the science department, opportunities for people to try archery, shooting and have a go on the bouncy castles.

Thank you to all the families, friends and public who came along to this day and helped make it a success. (Ms Warren)



Boarding

Open Day was a huge success and the boys excelled in their efforts to make it so. As I am writing this boys are whizzing down a dry ski slope on toboggans, helping and encouraging each other during the last of their fun filled activities week. The Brymore way already being demonstrated by Year 7s who have clearly seen the older boys modelling such a brethren mentality.



Induction for the new Year 7s was a huge success and the boys really enjoyed themselves. Lasting memories that will carry with them throughout a long summer awaiting their start in September. While new boys made friends and enjoyed themselves our Year 10s were industriously carrying out their work experience with due care and diligence. Learning new skills and sharpening existing ones in some circumstances.

If they have not been swimming for leisure or putting in hard lengths in order to practise for the swimming gala, they have been enjoying other evening activities designed to allow the boys to be active and embrace all we have to offer. As ever the bike track has been popular with many boys who have been enthused by the thrill of tearing around our purpose built track. A notable thank you to Mr Weldon who has been modifying the track which has now beautifully merged with the surrounding woodland.

Mrs Western is extremely pupil centred and has put on some great trips that the boys have loved. Boys have been to Brean Leisure Park and had a ton of fun. Bowling was great fun as was Quad World. A trip to Middlemoor Splash was epic fun and a trip that we will definitely do again. The boys saw the new Jurassic Park film Fallen Kingdom and there was a quiz night and treasure night too! Organising these activities takes much time and energy and so we are very pleased with Mrs Western's commitment with what is an action packed programme, during the week and the weekends including the vocational courses during the week. With regard to these get signed up early for next year to avoid disappointment.



The school play was huge fun and the boys performed our very unique version of Greased extremely well leaving us all very proud of their efforts.

Houseparents have been busy selecting their Mentors for the next academic year who will be vital in supporting the younger boys with their homesickness and helping them to settle into boarding life by encouraging them to do more activities and checking in with them to see how their week has been or what exciting things their mentees are looking forward to for that week. The 5 day week is almost upon us and there has been much planning and discussion. The boarders all made their choices with regard to their dorm preferences for next year which were then taken into consideration as well as staff's thoughts and dorm compatibility before we decided upon where boys would be. Reid House will become the 7 day a week boarding house and Kemp will remain the Junior House and will have 5-day a week boarders. School House will have the senior boarders who have opted for five days a week. Many boys and some key staff have had to move in order to accommodate such a change and we all look forward to a new Brymore come September.

Memories to last a lifetime, an experience to deliver the same, long days in the blistering warmth of a unrelenting summer of joy and wonder. Alas the end of another year is upon us, wowzers these days do fly by! Take time to relax this summer boys, take time to treasure moments with your family. Refresh your minds and body ready for another year at this very special school. Be thankful for these times now, not just in years to come but realise now how much Brymore has to offer you and you to Brymore. (Mr Watts)

School Play - 'Greased'

Narrator - *George Curtin*

Johnny Deere - *Bennett Wheeler*

Ned Holland - *Reece Sutherland*

Fendt - *Jason White*

Fergie - *Henry Calvert*

Reuben Willcocks - *Bevan Webber*

Percy Thrower - *James Lochrie*

Monty - *Gabriel Criddle*

Donald Trump - *George Davis*

Alan - *Reuben Kerr*

Mr Fewtrell - *Will Febrey*

Mr Thomas - *Declan Tolfree*

Brymore boy in dorm - *Mathew Williams*

Mr Williams - *George Davis*

Bodyguard - *Mathew Williams*

Advisor - *Gabriel Criddle*

Tech - *Joseph Houghton and Alfie Randle*

Stage Manager - *Ethan Lockyer*

The boys worked hard to put on two fantastic performances and proved to be an excellent ensemble. George Curtin skilfully managed the links between scenes, in his role as narrator while Bennett Wheeler gave a lively and engaging performance as Johnny Deere, in love with 'Sandy' - a real cow! Jason White was hilarious as Fendt, delivering his catchphrase 'I am Fendt' with great gusto, as a nod to the blockbuster Guardians of the Galaxy. Henry Calvert, Reece Sutherland and Bevan Webber all provided wonderful rivalry between the Agri and Horti gangs, along with Gabriel Criddle, Reuben Kerr and Mathew Williams. Will Febrey gave a strong performance as Mr Fewtrell and who could forget James Lochrie's lively performance as Percy Thrower?! Meanwhile George Davis put on a hilarious display as Mr Williams, complete with red tracksuit and Somerset accent, not to mention his fabulous impersonation of Donald Trump - blonde wig and American drawl nicely mastered. Finally, this year saw the return of Declan Tolfree's show stopping entry as Mr Thomas, to the Star Wars Theme tune. In his bald wig and smart suit, he was virtually indistinguishable from the real thing!

No performance would be possible without the invaluable input of those who work on it behind the scenes, so special mention goes to Joseph Houghton and Alfie Randall as technical support, alongside Ethan Lockyer who took on the role of stage manager. Adults helping out included Miss Eastham, Mrs Molineux and Mrs Truman, whose support proved invaluable. Once again, thanks to all and well done boys!



Sports Day

The sun shone on our annual sports day as boys took part in everything from triple jump to the relay race. Scores of students, staff and parents shouted their house representatives home during races and clapped from the side-lines during the field events. Another great Brymore event was done for another year when Walker house lifted the coveted trophy and thanks go to Mr Williams and Mr Spridgens for organising the afternoon. (Ms Warren)



Activities Week

The last week of term is always traditionally Activities Week and the boys had a great range of things happening to ensure they had a good end to the academic year. With trips to Flip Out, Hollywood Bowl and the local paintballing centre there was fun peppered with a step back in time at the Exeter Underground Passages and a test of teamwork with the Quantock walk for Year 9 and overnight walk and camp for the Year 10 boys. On the whole a great week and staff and students will be feeding back on how to make it even better next year. (Ms Warren)



2018/19 Upcoming Important Dates

Autumn Term 2018

Monday 10 September

INSET DAY

5.00 pm New Year 7 Boarders arrive

6.00 pm Year 8, 9, 10 & 11 boarders return

Tuesday 11 September

8.30 am All out-boarders return

Friday 14 September

4.30 pm Hog Roast for new Year 7 and their parents

Friday 21 September and Friday 5 October

9.30 am - 12.30 pm Open Mornings for future prospective students

Saturday 6 October

10.00 am - 12.00 pm Open Morning for future prospective students (aimed at boarders)

Saturday 20 October

10.00 am Upper School Harvest Festival, St Mary's Church, Cannington, TA5 2HP

11.30 am Whole School Cross Country

1.30 pm FoBSA AGM (Meeting Room)

1.30 pm Year 9, 10 and 11 depart for half-term

2.15 pm Lower School Harvest Festival, St Mary's Church, Cannington, TA5 2HP

3.00 pm Year 7 and 8 depart for half-term

Monday 5 November

INSET DAY

3.30 pm Year 7 Parent Consultation with Houseparents,
Heads of House & Registration Group Tutors

Academic Progress with Senior Leadership Team
(Selected Year 11 students only)

6.00 pm - 9.00 pm Year 8, 9 10 & 11 boarders return

Tuesday 6 November

8.30 am All out-boarders return

Friday 14 December

4.00 pm Lower School Christmas Service, St Mary's Church, Cannington, TA5 2HP

Saturday 15 December

10.30 am Upper School Christmas Service, St Mary's Church, Cannington, TA5 2HP

CONTACT

Brymore Academy, Brymore Way, Cannington, Bridgwater,
Somerset TA5 2NB

T: (01278) 652369 F: (01278) 653244

E: office@brymore.somerset.sch.uk