

# Brymore

experience to last a lifetime

## Newsletter

December 2019

[www.brymoreacademy.co.uk](http://www.brymoreacademy.co.uk)

### In this issue:

Farm

Horticulture

Sport

Boarding

YFC

Activities

LRC

Forest School

FoBSA

Lottery

Children in Need

Christmas at Brymore

Smiles for Christmas

Remembrance

Accelerated Reader

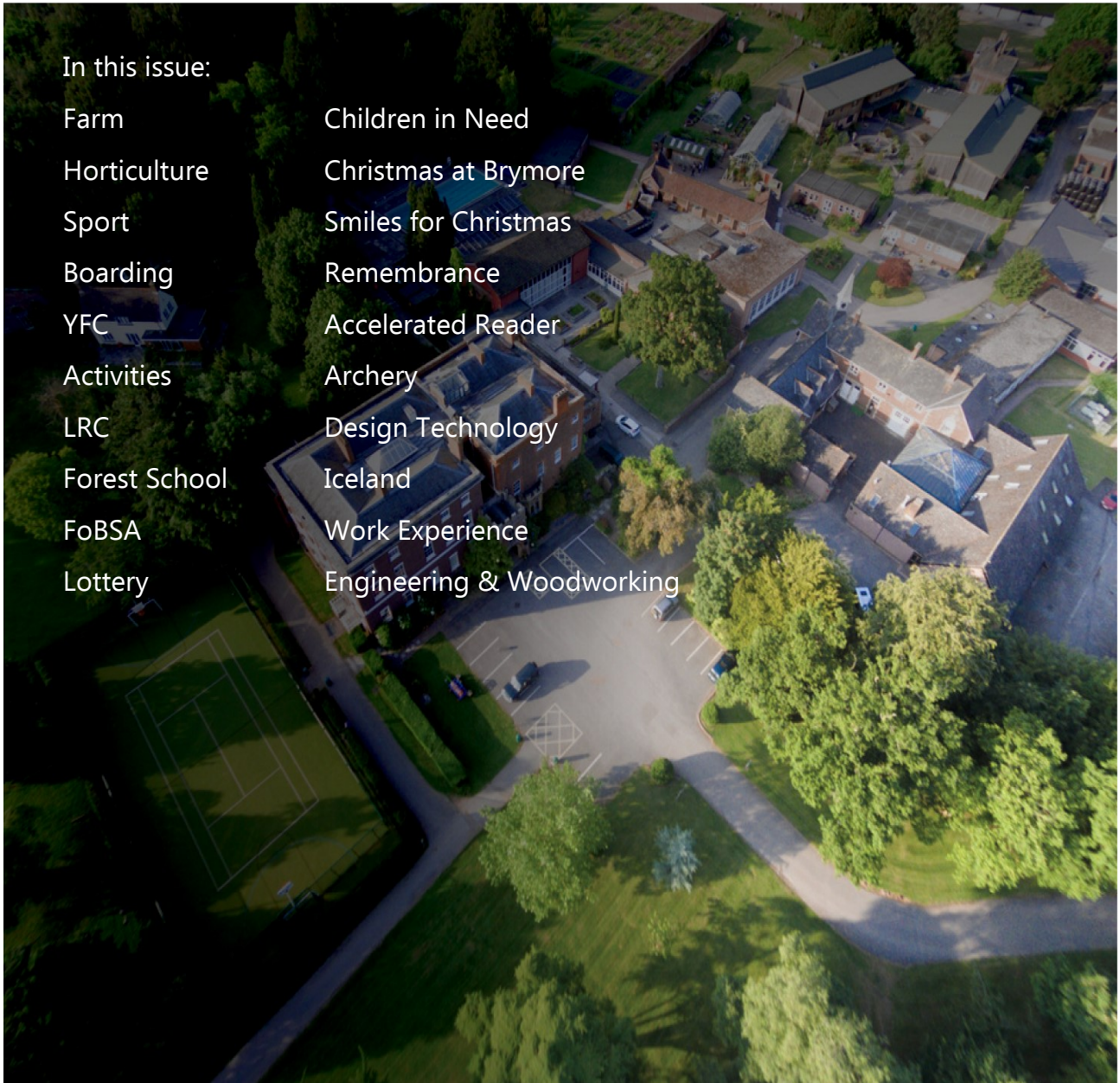
Archery

Design Technology

Iceland

Work Experience

Engineering & Woodworking



*Diligentia et Labore*



---

## Message from the Headteacher

Once again, many thanks to everyone who attended the Christmas Carol Service and I hope it helped put you in the mood for Christmas. As always at Brymore, it has been a very busy week to round off an even busier term. The boys excelled themselves again in collecting foodstuffs for the Smiles for Christmas campaign and in raising money for 'Save the Children' on Christmas Jumper Day and for the Taunton and Bridgwater foodbank, through the retiring collection at the Christmas Carol Service. They were treated to a Christmas lunch, Christmas tea and Christmas parties in the boarding houses.

If you read through this newsletter I think it is amazing that it shows how much has happened in just six weeks. There has been over £1500 raised for various charities, through the Christmas collection, Children in Need, the boarding houses and the work of the Young Farmers Club. Boys again showed their respects on Armistice Day and helped out at the local Blackmore by Candlelight event. Some boys visited the Royal Agricultural University in Cirencester and others were lucky enough to visit Iceland. All of the usual activities have taken place with a special mention to the Year 11 rugby squad for have reached the Area final again where they have the chance of being the first team in my time as Head to win the final two years in a row.

I am also delighted to report that we have been continuing to invest in the grounds and buildings of the school. The main hall has had a facelift, school house dormitories continue to be refurbished, Reid and Kemp common rooms are due next and our new farm building is close to being completed. Brymore is about so many things but the farm continues to be at the heart of what we do which is why I was delighted when we secured such significant funding from the DfE.

I met with the farm team this week as they were planning their holiday working rota. Whilst it is something we see as 'normal' it struck me that there can not be many state schools that have to plan who will be in work on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. I am sure it is something many of you will also be used to. However, I think it helps illustrate the relentless nature of farming. Despite illness, poor weather or public holidays, the cows still need to be milked and the animals fed.

Whatever your circumstances, I hope you do get a chance to spend time with your family this Christmas. This is so important for the boys, especially the full time boarders, as life at Brymore can be so busy that we do not always get the chance to spend time with the people we care about.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year in 2020.





## Horticulture

Another busy, busy term. We have made cider from some of the cider apples early in the half-term. Year 7 have visited Monkton Elm Garden Centre, Year 8 Westhay Moor Peat Regeneration Project and Year 9 went to Knightshayes Court to be given an informative guided tour around the walled garden (including lots of the history).

New Year 10 prospective HoDs are being interviewed. Many thanks to the regular HoDs in Year 11, for their help and support.

We have planted bulbs, cleared and re-planted beds of seasonal bedding and autumn/winter hanging baskets have been filled.

We now have a herd of reindeer made by boys and also Christmas wreaths. We also had a Christmas pig too, thanks to one creative student. The two new members of the team, Mrs Osborne and Mrs Franks, who have already made a significant difference, took charge of these livestock and the creation of them!

Beds have been cleared and mulched, more soil from the compost heaps sieved and sterilised. Potted plants have been trimmed and weeded and then top-dressed and the polytunnel emptied so that the floor can be repaired.

As always, my sincere thanks to Mrs Stanley for all her help. She heads up Plots Club on a Tuesday evening and we regularly get a small number of students who need extra help on their plots.

As yet, the wall has not been re-built but the roll up doors we put onto the potting shed have made a considerable difference, especially in the colder evenings for garden duties. Just a reminder: **ALL** Year 8 boys should be completing an hour of garden duties per week. Some have now accrued several nights to be made up. Also, boots **must** have steel toe caps, overalls **must** be worn and old clothes/PE kit put on **under** their overalls. (Mr Willcocks)



## Music Tuition

Any student receiving guitar or piano or drum lessons may continue with lessons. We ask that you ensure a further 10 lessons are paid for up front. There are still places available so if anyone else interested in learning should contact me on:

[RSWillcocks@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:RSWillcocks@educ.somerset.gov.uk)

## Work Experience

Year 10: 29 June - 3 July 2020

Just a reminder to Year 10 students and parents that the deadline for getting the paperwork to us has now passed. Students **SHOULD** have organised a placement and so, for any who still have forms in the pipeline, an early return in January is **essential** to ensure you get a placement. Each placement **MUST** have public and employers liability and pass a Health & Safety check. Boys without a placement will be expected to return to school for that week. (Mr Willcocks)

## Young Farmers Club

A busy half term with a presentation of £250 made to Pam Wills of RABI by outgoing chair Will Hatch.

William Wescott and Joseph Fear have been presented with their Chair badges and Adam Priest is now Vice Chair.

Miss Parker organised a visit from Synergy Vets, which proved very popular as did the presentation by Mathew Holloway of Smarts Agri - thank you Jack for talking dad into that.

Unfortunately due to illness, we had to postpone the penultimate speaker but hopefully that will be rearranged.

The last event of this year and of 2019 was a Christmas Quiz with cake and mince pies. (Miss Bradford)



## Royal Agricultural University

Mr Willocks and Miss Parker took a bus trip for some of our Year 10 boys to the Royal Agricultural University in Cirencester this half term.

The aim was to show boys that a university route via a land based interest is achievable, to show them the campus and courses available and also to empower them into making choices now about future higher education routes. Boys had a full tour of the university, including the farm and live-stock area and came away very informed. (Ms Warren)



## Archery

Congratulations to Mathew Neal-Donald on winning the archery completion this half term along with the other students taking part.

As you can see from the photo, they really enjoyed themselves. (Mr Ball)





## Children in Need

Brymore embraced our agricultural roots whilst fundraising for Children in Need with a tractor pull. We also held a non-uniform day, cake sale and soak the staff event plus we had a visit from BBC Somerset presenter Charlie Taylor with boys featuring live on air.



The Senior Student Leadership Team worked really hard to drive the fundraising and ensure that they had a good total to finish the week on. Activities included a pay-per-go tractor pull with a John Deere donated by Smarts Agricultural Services in Nether Stowey, throwing sponges and buckets of water at the good humoured staff and a cake sale. BBC Somerset were involved in a county wide hunt for their breakfast presenter Claire Carter and boys went on air with the next clue whilst also discussing the importance of raising money for Children in Need.

Boys and staff managed to raise an outstanding £735.95 for the charity, so thank you to all the boys, staff and parents for helping contribute to this.  
(Ms Warren)



## New Farm Building

The grand opening of the new farm building will take place at 3pm on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and we are delighted that Phil Vickery MBE (England rugby world cup winner) has agreed to open it. Phil grew up on a dairy farm and so this, coupled with his achievements in rugby, makes us feel he would have made a pretty good Brymore boy! The building houses a new six berth tandem milking parlour and purpose built classroom with an 86 inch ultra high definition 4k MimioDisplay screen; we are the first school in the country to have one of these installed. There will also be a chance to view plans for the next stage of the development of the farm which will include new pig housing and a new multi-purpose barn. The total investment in the farm this year will be over £700 000, so that our facilities will finally match the reputation the boys have built over the years. Formal invitations will be sent out soon. However, all parents and boys are welcome to attend. (Mr Thomas)





## Activities

Every term we endeavour to provide a mixed and interesting array of activities for the boys to take part in; this term has been no exception. We have visited Weston Super Mare for the Firework display off of the Grand Pier, which included a Fish supper and unlimited access to the rides and attractions.



The following weekend, the boys had the opportunity to go to Glastonbury in the evening to watch the stunning floats from all around Somerset, weave their way through the town, the boys did say it was very cold but totally worth going. We also took a trip to Exeter Chiefs to watch the rugby and went to Clark's Village for some festive shopping.

Then we have activities that remind the boys that we are a part of a wider community, like attending the remembrance parade and paying their respects at the Commonwealth War Graves in the village, also helping out at a local event at Blackmore Farm or just going to a local rugby match in North Petherton and supporting local teams. The boys were particularly passionate about helping to update the bike track and use the equipment for this and some of our full time boarders simply enjoy going down to the farm and helping with milking, feeding and other duties.

Whatever the boys do at the weekend, they participate fully, always enjoying time spent off the school site or just 'chilling' and taking part in competitions in the common rooms.



For term 2A in January 2020, we will be kicking off with a visit to the Recreation ground to watch Bath vs Harlequins; we have a visit to a local theatre for a night at the musicals, Inflat- or fun at the swimming pool, 'Clip n Climb', 'Alpaca walking', Basketball and a shopping trip to include a visit to an all you can eat Chinese buffet, just to name a few.

If you want to take part in any of the weekend activities please contact your Houseparent to sign you up. Out-boarders are always welcome to join any trip as long as there is space on the transport, full time boarders will always take priority on weekend trips.

If you are aware of an event taking place, within an hour's drive away, that the boys might be interested in, please contact me at: [nwestern@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:nwestern@educ.somerset.gov.uk)



(Mrs Western)



## Smiles for Christmas

Boys, families and staff raised the bar once again through the Smiles for Christmas campaign held this half-term. The boarding houses were tasked with bringing in gifts to create a large hamper for those in need locally at this time of year and the result was three houses full of chocolates, biscuits, toiletries and gifts. All with the purpose of putting a smile on the faces of people who may be alone or who do not have the money to enjoy Christmas like many of the rest of the country. In addition, the houses had to design the actual hamper to be judged by external visitors. The boys worked really hard on the designs and the winning house was Reid. Captain Mark Godwin from the Bridgwater branch of the Salvation Army came into the school to judge the hampers and thank the boys. They were extremely grateful for all the hard work and efforts and the hampers will be used to help those locally, through the Bridgwater Salvation Army branch, have a smile on their faces this Christmas. (Ms Warren)



## Farm Report

The cows have now gone into the new milking parlour and their first milking went very well, considering the new routine they faced. From then on, it seems literally a dream to milk in.

We have had two recent calvings - one bull calf (Dairy Shorthorn) and one 100% Dairy Shorthorn heifer.

The Ewes have recently been scanned. I am reasonably happy with them being scanned to 162%.

We are carrying 19 store lambs through to the new year.

Most of the cattle are in, apart from the last few in-calf heifers, store cattle and dry cows.

The turkeys reared and sold very well. I continue to be impressed with how the Year 10 boys take care when plucking and dressing the birds. (Mr Kingston)



## Remembrance

Remembrance Day was honoured by the boys, Old Brymorians and staff at Brymore as they lined the main drive on Armistice Day.

The day began with an assembly led by Private Barry Lockyer, a parent and ex-Brymore boy, who gave a heart-warming speech in which he talked about the impact of active service on veterans and not only the importance of remembering those lost but also of caring for the mental health of survivors.

At 11.00 am as the school clock ceased its chimes the whole school held two minutes of silence before the Last Post was played. Mr Thomas read a poignant passage to everyone before the procession led by Head Boy and Deputy Head Boy carrying wreaths and flanked by Assistant Head Boys moved slowly to the front of school house, where the wreath was placed in memory of all who have lost their lives over the last 100 years. The procession was then joined by Private Lockyer and Mr Carr, also a current parent and former member of the Armed Forces. Both men wore their uniforms. Old Brymorians Peter Harris and Oliver Mahon also joined us for the occasion. (Ms Warren)



## FOBSA

Debbie Hutter and Martin Barber fresh into their new Joint Chair roles at FoBSA were delighted with the highly successful Christmas Bingo held at Brymore on 29<sup>th</sup> November. Contributions from parents, the school community and a few local businesses enabled the creation of 22 exquisitely wrapped bingo prizes, and a vast selection of raffle prizes too. On the evening the school hall was full of a mix of boys, parents, staff and supporters from the local area, all of whom collectively enjoying the pre-Christmas event. The evening generated a fabulous profit of £924.73, for which FoBSA thank you all.

Do you have any outgrown uniform or need something extra, then why not utilise the FoBSA uniform service, where we ensure your quality preloved items are accessible to a new user. It minimises waste and environmental impact, saves money and generates funds for FoBSA. See Facebook page 'Brymore academy 2nd hand uniform for sale' for more details.

FoBSA are already planning next year's events and have several meetings you may wish to support.

Fri 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020, 3.00pm - 5.00 pm, a general drop-in session to collect ideas for events and new collaborations with the school, provide general feedback and register support.

Fri 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020, 3.00pm - 5.00 pm, FoBSA Committee Meeting, including planning for a Quiz Night and the school Lambing Day.

Our next major fundraising event is Lambing Day on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2020. Make sure you reserve the date! If you're unable to attend the meetings but still wish to help FoBSA, then register your interest at the school office, join the Facebook group 'fobsa (friends of Brymore School) ', or email [fobsachair@hotmail.com](mailto:fobsachair@hotmail.com) .



## Iceland

An Iceland first... walking on a glacier. Wow!

Voted the best excursion during our five day trip during the October half-term holiday, both boys and staff couldn't stop talking about how good it was. Our guided tour started with getting kitted out with helmets, walking sticks and crampons... but that wasn't the funniest part...as we drew near to the glacier it was time to attach crampons to boots which proved very entertaining, watching some struggle to figure out how exactly the strap-ping actually worked! So... crampons on, helmets on and walking sticks at the ready, our three expert and friendly guides led us into a crevasse...an icy cavern with amazing patterns and colours... before leading us up and onto the top of Sólheimajökull glacier. The views from the top were simply spectacular, both down the valley and towards the snout but also back up towards the top of the ice-cap... which at its deepest measured approximately 700 metres. Where we stood still had a colossal depth of 180m to the valley floor. After over two hours on the ice we came back down, filled with awe and enthusiasm from our experience.

We also managed to conquer Eldfell volcano for the first time, having had our two previous attempts scuppered by poor weather... which almost defeated us again. However, having trekked to within striking distance of the 200m summit, powerful winds giving us a face-numbing wind-chill temperature of -7 meant 10 minutes at the top was more than enough. Fortunately it was well worth it as we were rewarded with stunning views back to the mainland of Iceland, on the clearest of sunny days... well worth the effort!! We then topped Heimaey island off with a visit to the local swimming pool...a naturally heated geothermal outdoor pool with hot tubs, a cold tub (that was visited by several mad pupils... and a few more than once) plus a great slide.

Speaking of naturally heated pools, this time around we visited the geothermal pool called the Secret Lagoon and in many ways, it was much better than its larger and more famous

cousin, the Blue Lagoon. Here, the Secret Lagoon was located in a quieter location, away from the masses of tourists that now swamp the other one. The waters were still a balmy 38-40 °C and offered the luxury of relaxing up to your neck with just your head keeping cool in the cold air. The setting was beautiful and it was a perfect way to unwind for an hour-and-a-half!

The remainder of the trip was filled with looking at stunning waterfalls containing landscapes covered by their frozen spray, Strokkur geysir erupting every 10 minutes and vistas that left the mouth wide open. I hope the trip will live long in the memory for all that came along. I would like to say a huge thank you to all parents and guardians for helping to make this trip a success and I wish everyone a fantastic Christmas. Bring on the next one in 2021 - spaces will be available in the new year! (Mr Sawyer)



## LRC

The LRC continues to be a popular drop in during lunch and breaks. Many new books have been added to the shelves with a number donated to a local charity shop, have to make space!

Books issues are up but book returns are down. If your son has an overdue library please ask him to return it. All books issued this week have a return date of 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020. (Miss Bradford)

## Christmas at Brymore

A Christmas at Brymore is quite simply not like the festive season at other schools. We have decorated the boarding houses, celebrated the Smiles for Christmas campaign, practised carols in assembly, worn festive jumpers and have spent the whole of the last week of term recognising that it is an important family season no matter what religion or nationality you are.

We have eaten our Christmas lunch to the sound of number one festive songs over the years and the boys have had house parties and we have laid on lower and upper school Christmas teas. In addition, the Prefects and Senior Student Leadership Team were treated to a slap up dinner at Blackmore Farm as a thank you for their hard work. We also made over £200 for Save the Children through our Christmas jumper day.

The culmination of the week is the Christmas carol services; The 1st XV delighted all with their dulcet tones, having the Brymore Choir at both services was beautiful and not forgetting those boys who put themselves up in front of everyone to do a reading at the church.

Mr Willcocks works tirelessly to ensure we all know the carols and that the services are festive yet poignant, so a huge thank you to him for organising this. This year we chose the local foodbank as our nominated charity and the total raised was over £300 so thank you to the congregations for this. (Ms Warren)





## Forest School

The weather has been with us this half term in Forest School despite it being a bit cold. It's been lovely for the boys to spend some quality time learning outdoors with the sun shining through the autumn colours. This half term we have been looking at a self analyse of some important skills that the boys will work on during the Forest School year, such as social skills / practical skills and working safely. They also completed the mallet making courses with a high level of quality being achieved. Well done. (Mr Ball)



## Engineering & Woodworking

There have been some great pieces of work produced from these evening activities. Well done to Toby Sadler and Alex Huxley for their commitment to producing quality pieces of work. It's also great to see Year 7's really enjoying these activities and becoming confident in the workshops, both Woodwork and Metalwork whilst making bottle openers / engineers square's / whistles / wooden owls and tool boxes. (Mr Ball)



### North Petherton Rugby Club

Looking to enhance your son's school rugby? Why not try him out at North Petherton on a Sunday?

- Friendly club with community feel
- Highly qualified coaches
- Follows the RFU TREDs approach
- Enjoyment through a supportive set-up
- Lots of Brymore boys and parents already involved

**Contacts:**

U11 (Year 6) Sarah Williams [sarah\\_williams@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sarah_williams@yahoo.co.uk)

U12 (Year 7) James Morgan [jimmormors1@btinternet.com](mailto:jimmormors1@btinternet.com)

U13 (Year 8) Nick Coker [hmc1966@hotmail.com](mailto:hmc1966@hotmail.com)

U14 (Year 9) Simon Reeves [simonreeves645@btinternet.com](mailto:simonreeves645@btinternet.com)

U15 (Year 10) Simon Gingell [spqingell75@gmail.com](mailto:spqingell75@gmail.com)

U16 (Year 11) Jake Ellis [jake.ellis97@outlook.com](mailto:jake.ellis97@outlook.com)

Girls rugby (all years) Gary Hall [garvhall499@gmail.com](mailto:garvhall499@gmail.com)

NORTH PETHERTON RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB  
Beggars Brook, North Petherton, Somerset TA6 6NW

WEST SOMERSET COLLEGE  
Community Sports Centre



## New Year...New You

We can help you meet your fitness goals in 2020 with our 3 months half price offer.



Our team is focused on improving health and wellbeing for every individual in our diverse fitness community. We welcome everyone; no goal is too small or too big and corporate membership is available. We will challenge you, and help you to redefine your goals so contact us now to find out how you can get 3 months at 1/2 price.

Come along or call us on 01643 700367 for further details.

Half price offer for January until March for new memberships only.

West Somerset College Community Sports Centre, Bircham Road,  
Minehead, TA24 6AY

01643 700367



## Sports News

In rugby the Year 11 semi-final of the County Cup versus Kingsmead is scheduled to be played here during the first week back after the holidays. The Year 11 boys also feature in the area finals against Haygrove at North Petherton Rugby Club on the 16th January which, if they win, will be a great success for them. In addition our Year 10 team have made it through to the area final at Bridgwater and Albion Rugby Club on Monday 13th January. All these dates are provisional and pitch inspection dependent but I'm sure all of the players would value a crowd to lift them on the night so supporters very welcome. Fixtures continue after Christmas for all age groups and we are building towards house rugby fixtures after the next half term. Everyone is welcome to rugby training and certainly in the Year 7 and 10 groups we could use a few more coming out to training.

The area cross country trials were held here during the last week of term and the Year 11 team (made up of all rugby players so just emphasising the sheer determination and fitness of the sport) won the inter boys contest and approximately 20 boys have qualified for the county trials in late January in Yeovil. The trials fall on a Saturday so I would be heartened to see lots of parents encourage their sons to ensure they take part.

We attended a "Step into sport" conference in Yeovil hosted by SASP and Paralympian Kate Gray, with 12 boys learning new ways of delivering sport to others. Coming up next term, we are also taking part in a table cricket competition at the County Ground in Taunton and we will be attending the Boccia area championships, so there is lots for boys to get involved in.

Numbers attending Chads every day continue to be good and those boys running it are really seeing a change in their overall fitness, so if your son struggles to see the run as important, then please encourage them, as it really does benefit their overall health. (Mr Williams)

## Design Technology

Our Year 11s are getting ready to make their final project. The projects have been designed, modelled and developed now and students need to have ordered their materials ready to start making first day back.

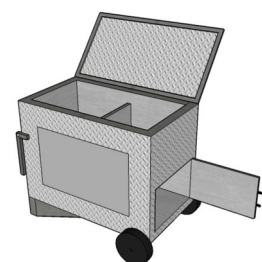
Students are designing for a special event or occasion for their major project. Some of the more ambitious designs include showboxes, folding benches, display stands and drinks tables with built in ice packs. For many it will be the biggest project they have ever made.

"Spring term is loads of fun in the department." said Mr Austin, Head of DT, "It's great to be able to help our Y11s make some real projects but it does get busy! It's really important that students have all their materials in for the first day of term and it's very helpful if parent/guardians can make sure their sons have everything they need in school on the first day of term."

Many pupils are now designing on the computer using our CAD programmes. Using computers to model their designs is a great step forward for our boys and shows that they can embrace modern methods of designing. For Year 11 CAD strengthens their design portfolio and will make a difference to their grades.

Pupils are introduced to CAD programmes including 2D design and Sketchup from Y7 onwards. We find that the lower school are quick to take on the new skills needed. These skills are then developed through to GCSE level.

Sketchup is a free programme and boys are encouraged to download it onto their own computers to help them build their skills. The picture illustrates a showbox designed by Year 11 Louis Bagg. (Mr Armstrong)





# House Reading Competition

Year 8 are leading the way and have read a total of 8,543,220 words, closely followed by Year 9 with 8,233,584 words.

Galsworthy	Taylor	Walker
5,215,857	10,391,158	8,627,229

The class that has read the most words so far this academic year is 9.1, amassing a total of 4,653,659 words. On average 94% of boys have logged reading during the last month.

Certificates will be coming home for our top readers and those already on target. It is great to see so many boys developing really good reading habits. It really does make such a difference, not only to their reading skills but also with their writing and spelling.

Toby Lee, in Year 8, is our first word millionaire of this academic year.

## Rewards Trip

Details of the reward trip will be announced in January. The boys need to have reached 33% of their annual reading target, by the time we return in January, to secure themselves a place on the trip. The trip will take place before February half-term. We have a number of boys who have already achieved 33% and more. Please remember, logging reading and taking quizzes over the holidays really helps towards this target.

Any questions over Reading Rewards please direct them to me via email: VMcfall@educ.somerset.gov.uk

## **Expectations:**

To have a reading book with you at all times

To log at least 140 minutes of reading per week on 'Reading Rewards' (20 minutes per day)

To read a book within your ZPD

To aim to read 2-3 books (depending on length) per half term

To take responsibility to work hard in order to try to achieve your annual personal target

To work as part of a team and read in order to earn rewards for my class

To work as part of a team and read in order to earn points for my house

To share stories you have enjoyed with your peers and recommend books you have enjoyed to others

To respect, look after and return the books you enjoy from the LRC and Room 4. (Mrs McFall)

## **BRYMORE LOTTERY**

**The results of the lottery for this half-term:**

**1<sup>st</sup> £40: Mrs V Guest**

**2<sup>nd</sup> £25: Mr Floyd**

**3<sup>rd</sup> £15: Mrs Ranson**



A Brymore Christmas Cow - by Matthew Neal-Donald (Year 9)

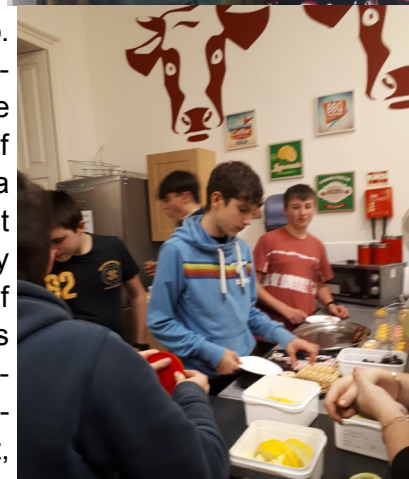
## Boarding

Here at Brymore we have seen the seasons change this half term to bring about much colder days and we are very much in the grip of winter now. As usual Brymore ploughs on and Chads Hill runs have not lost their numbers and nor have all the other activities which set Brymore apart from other schools.

Much warmth has been seen towards our charity we have continued to choose to donate our Smiles for Christmas donations to. Each boarding house worked hard to create wonderful and imaginative designs for their hamper. The remit being the need to be festive with a Brymore twist. School House had created a trio of Brymore boy mannequins singing carols. Kemp House created a nativity scene in which Kemp boys made a sheep, cow and pig out of cardboard and adorned their backdrop with an angel with my face. The winners were Reid House. They had created a flock of sheep on top of a grassy knoll with real life actors as shepherds and Captain Mark Godwin from the Salvation Army was very impressed and so announced them as the winners. All of the food-stuffs and toys that were donated, and there was a huge amount, will serve to help many families in need this Christmas.

The boarding houses, on top of encouraging boys to donate towards the Smiles for Christmas campaign, have also managed to raise monies for their respective house charities. Reid House had a tuck shop weekend and raised £36.06 for the Star charity, Somerset Trust for Arts and Recreation. School House raised £158 for Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance after having a pasta and garlic bread night. Kemp managed to raise £449 after encouraging boys to complete individual sponsored events during half term. With much goodwill to others during this festive half-term boys and staff have been celebrating their hard work and enjoying the festive season with many events. Tuesday night was the boarding house Christmas parties which were enjoyed by all. Wednesday was Christmas Jumper Day and then Christmas lunch in the dining hall. It was great to see the top 15 boys in terms of their achievement points, sitting at the top table and eating their lunch together. Breaking bread together due to their continued excellence and allowing others to see what can be achieved with *Diligentia et Labore*.


The boarding team said 'farewell' to Mrs Edwards as she began her maternity leave and welcomed Miss Owen and Ms Carter to the team to provide cover. Our Independent Listener Mr Cockram visited Brymore during the penultimate week of half-term to talk to many boys about their experience as boarders. Boys are welcome to contact Mr Cockram if they wish to about anything they would like to. Boys were also asked to do a questionnaire if they are a mentor or if they are mentored. Miss Eastham will publish results of the survey soon. Mentoring is a real strength at Brymore with older boys supporting younger years with their homesickness, encouraging activity participation and checking in and out with them. The House Improvement Team consists of boys who represent each boarding house. Many hoodies have been ordered with a small profit being added to the HIT budget. With their respective budgets for each house much provision and equipment for the enjoyment of both boarders and out boarders has been purchased. Reid House for example has had a new PS4 and boys have enjoyed playing with this. Our activities budget has bought new sports equipment too. Lacrosse equipment and Uinhoc gear has been bought and the boys have liked playing these new activities a lot. I hope you all have a great Christmas holiday and enjoy the food, presents and spending time with loved ones. (Mr Watts)





**TERM 2A WEEKEND ACTIVITY SUMMARY January 2020**

Full-time boarders will take priority where weekend events are limited by numbers

Week 1 -	
<p><b>Friday 10th January</b></p> <p><b>What</b> Bath v Harlequins <b>Where</b> Bath Recreation Ground <b>When</b> 5:30 to 10pm <b>Cost</b> £30.00 <b>MOS</b> RFW</p>  	<p><b>Saturday 11th January</b></p> <p>Tuck shopping Bridgwater 9:15 to 11:15 £1.00 Matron</p>
<p><b>Friday 17th January</b></p> <p><b>What</b> Night at the Musicals <b>Where</b> McMillan Theater, Bridgwater <b>When</b> 7:15 to 10pm <b>Cost</b> £13.00 <b>MOS</b> GL</p> 	<p><b>Saturday 18th January</b></p> <p>Golf Range Cannington 9:15 to 11:45 £5 BB</p>
<p><b>Friday 24th January</b></p> <p><b>What</b> TimeWarp arcade <b>Where</b> Bridgwater <b>When</b> 6:15 to 9pm <b>Cost</b> £8.00 <b>MOS</b> BB</p> 	<p><b>Saturday 25th January</b></p> <p>Tuck Shopping Bridgwater 9:15 to 11:15 £1 Matron</p>
<p><b>Friday 31st January</b></p> <p><b>What</b> Bridgwater Baltics v Bridgwater <b>Where</b> Bucs Basketball <b>When</b> Robert Blake School 6:40 to 9:30pm <b>Cost</b> £1.00 <b>MOS</b> LE</p> 	<p><b>Saturday 1st February</b></p> <p>Golf Range Cannington 9:15 to 11:45 £5 BB</p>
<p><b>Friday 7th February</b></p> <p><b>What</b> Prize Scavenger Hunt <b>Where</b> School Site <b>When</b> 7 to 8:30pm <b>Cost</b> Free <b>MOS</b> LE</p> 	<p><b>Saturday 8th February</b></p> <p>Tuck Shopping Bridgwater TBC £1 Matron</p>
<p><b>Sunday 12th January</b></p> <p>Minehead Arcades and Beach Minehead 1:30 to 5pm £1 (+ spending money) LW</p> 	<p><b>Saturday 15th January</b></p> <p>Helicopter Museum Weston Super mare 11:30 to 3pm £7.00 GL</p> 
<p><b>Sunday 19th January</b></p> <p>Great Wood Walk &amp; Café Ranscombe 9:30 to 12:30 £1 (Plus money for Café) GS</p>  	<p><b>Saturday 18th January</b></p> <p>Inflator Fun 1610 Bridgwater 2 to 5pm (2:45 to 3:45) TBC GS</p> 
<p><b>Sunday 26th January</b></p> <p>Alpaca Walking Stoke Wood Taunton 12 to 5:30pm £18 GL</p>  	<p><b>Saturday 25th January</b></p> <p>Scott Cinema Bridgwater TBC £7 Matron</p> 
<p><b>Sunday 2nd February</b></p> <p>Stearr March walk Combswich 2 to 4pm Free BB</p>  	<p><b>Saturday 1st February</b></p> <p>Mei's Chinese Buffet and shopping Taunton 1 to 6pm 12 (+ spending Money) TW</p>  
<p><b>Sunday 9th February</b></p> <p>Clip &amp; Climb Weston 1 to 5:30pm £16 IA</p>  	<p><b>Saturday 8th February</b></p> <p>Brean Down + Chippy Lunch Brean 11:30 to 3pm £5 GL</p> 

## 2019/20 Upcoming Important Dates

**SPRING TERM: Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**INSET DAY**

3.30 pm - 5.30 pm Year 11 Parent Consultation  
6.00 pm - 9.00 pm Years 7, 8, 9 & 10 boarders return

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January**

8.30 am All out-boarders return

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January Official Opening of New Farm Building**

1.20 pm All students may depart  
3.00 pm Official Opening of New Farm Building

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February**

12.00 pm Years 7, 9, 10 & 11 depart for Spring half-term  
1.00 pm - 3.00 pm Year 8 Parent Consultation

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February**

**INSET DAY**

3.30 pm - 5.30 pm Year 10 Parent Consultation  
6.00 pm - 9.00 pm Years 7, 8, 9 & 11 boarders return

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March**

2.00 pm House Rugby Match 1: Galsworthy -v- Walker (Year 10/11)

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March**

2.00 pm House Rugby Match: Loser (Match 1) -v- Taylor (Year 10/11)

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

2.00 pm House 7s Rugby (All years)

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**

10.00 am Raising Achievement Session for Parents  
11.30 am Parents Chads Run/Walk  
2.00 pm Rugby & Hockey House Finals (Year 10/11)  
4.00 pm All students depart for Easter Holidays

**CONTACT**

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

T: (01278) 652369 F: (01278) 653244  
E: office@brymore.somerset.sch.uk