

## Newsletter

December 2020

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*Diligentia et Labore*



# Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Guardians

I have always loved Christmas. A time to slow down and spend time with friends and family, to look back over the past year and begin to think about what challenges lie ahead for the following year. It is not just about the presents on Christmas Day, but the anticipation which usually starts in earnest when you open the first door of the advent calendar, or when you start to decorate the tree. For me, it builds until I finally get in the car on Christmas Eve and drive home to Cornwall, the Church service in the evening, followed by a gathering of 30-40 friends and family as we all descend on someone's house for food and drinks. Then of course it is putting out my son Isaac's stocking, the carrot, mince pie and a glass of sherry before going to bed in the hope the big day arrives sooner.

Except for many of us this year things will be, and have been, very different. As I look back on the past year I can only reflect on what a difficult time it has been for everyone. As a Brymore family I am proud of the way we have all pulled together to support each other during difficult times both at home and as a school community. One of my saddest memories is of the sudden departure of last year's Year 11 due to the country going into lockdown. No leavers service and no chance to shake the boy's hand simply to say well done and in acknowledgement of many shared memories. No Year 7 induction and a chance to welcome the new Brymore boys properly, no Harvest Festival, cross country or end of term presentation awards. More recently no Christmas Carol Service which is another key event for me in the Christmas period. However, the reality is whilst many of these events have not taken place in the way we would like, I have been delighted with the determination many people have shown, staff in particular, to make sure that they do go ahead in some way. It is this resilience and resourcefulness which has helped keep the Brymore spirit going through these difficult times.

The boys response during lockdown was incredible and it was so good to see many of the projects and work completed during this time. Their attitude this term has also been excellent, with more boys running Chads than ever before. Year 11 have attended breakfast sessions, sessions after school and foregone Friday activities in an attempt to catch up any work missed. Those who have been forced to self-isolate have been keen to keep up with the work and staff have worked hard to ensure boys have not got behind. As parents I can not thank you enough for the way you have responded to changing plans, your kind and supportive words and your continued support at picking up and dropping off times.

So now, more than ever, we really do need to slow down and spend time together as a family at Christmas. I am sure that for many of you, like me, that means you can not see everyone you would like to over the festive period. Many family traditions will not happen this year and we will all be forced to do things differently. However, it is up to each of us to make the most of what we do have and to respect the fact that there are many less fortunate than ourselves. Maybe it is time to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas and to ensure we never forget what really is important. Over the past few years the best part of Christmas has always been seeing the look on Isaac's face as he creeps downstairs to discover that Father Christmas has actually visited and left him his stocking. That will be no different this year, indeed I have a feeling it will be even more special.

Whatever Christmas means for you, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and lets put 2020 behind us as we look forward to 2021. Happy Christmas!



Mark Thomas

# Horticulture

It's that time of year when we are surrounded by fallen leaves. So much time and energy has been expended raking up leaves and piling them in a huge heap down by the ponds, where they will stay for the year. The worms, bacteria and insects will get to work and begin to break them down. Next year at this time we will be using the leaf mould as a mulch in the gardens, or as a constituent of our home made compost (where it is used as a peat substitute). The old heap is now being stripped for use in the garden and on the beds and borders.

We cut down our willow and have been using that to create Christmas wreathes (with Mrs Osborne at the helm here). Mrs Franks put together the Horticulture Calendar using photos submitted for the monthly photo competition and also some sent to us during lockdown showing the efforts of the boys at home. At £5 what could be a better Christmas present for friends and family?

Pricking out of seedlings and potting on of rooted cuttings and larger plants have continued in lessons and duties and we are maintaining a very varied selection of herbaceous perennials and shrubs. Potted plants have been weeded and trimmed, as have borders around the school.

The last of the root vegetables have been lifted, washed and sorted, leaving the raised beds ready to be mulched and the last of the apples were collected and juiced. We hope some will turn into cider, but we will see how that process goes this year. The apple, spiced apple and pear and apple juice have sold well and stocks are getting low already.

Duties have continued despite the darkening evenings. Well, the boys have to learn that in the big wide world of work, life does not stop at sunset in the winter. Once again we are grateful to those HoDs from Year 11 who come weekly to lend a hand and take care of the Year 8s. Year 10s have now applied to become next year's HoDs and will go through a process of preparation in order to take over next term.

Those Year 8s who have failed to attend duties will be expected to make up those missed sessions next term. This is a lesson in meeting ones' commitments. To be honest, the department struggles when we do not have students on duty because they can get a lot done in an hour if they all work together in their groups. Once again, many thanks to Mrs Stanley who organises and runs most of these sessions. She also has oversight of the boy's plots. Some boys have already got crops planted and growing on their plots, whereas others still have a lot of weeding to do. They will be marked over the holiday and next term the busy-ness will increase as lads get their plots ready to plant. Year 7 pupils have sown broad bean seeds and hope that if they can beat the mice they will have some bean plants to plant out on their plots.

In the classroom we have had a plant of the week and have a hyacinth growing before our eyes. We also have examples of a bug hotel and a bird box for the Year 8s who are studying Conservation at the moment. Year 7s have learnt about trees and mulches and Year 9s have considered the various uses of plants, life cycles and commercial seed production. Year 10s continue with soil science and have been completing horticulture skills assessments in their practical lessons.

There is always plenty to look at, learn about and do in this department. We thank those other TAs who have helped out on occasions and also you all for supporting our department by buying from the weekly stall, at present on the basketball court. All monies made go back into the practical side of our department.

With much gratitude to the whole team. (Mr Willcocks)





## Young Farmers Club



Due to the new Government guidelines surrounding COVID-19 this saw the Brymore YFC turn to virtual MS TEAMS meetings every other week. The boys were great this term and although it is very disappointing that we can not meet altogether, in true Brymore style they have taken it in their stride. Every week they asked sensible questions to our guest speakers who were Tom Pope, Somerset YFC County Chairman, an agronomist and Ian Graham a local arable and goat farmer. Of course always including the most important question 'What is your favourite tractor?'. The boys who received student of the weeks this term were Joe Williams and Jack Wynn, these boys showed a real interest in what was being shared with them. (Miss Parker)

## Year 10 Exam

The Year 10 PE students have one of their exams after Christmas. They have had information to help prepare for this so please encourage them to revise. (Mr Williams)



## Year 11 Leavers Hoodies

23 boys have expressed an interest in having a Leavers Hoodie. A letter will be sent home soon explaining how you can order and pay for a hoodie, the cost at the moment, going on the 23 will be close to £30. The more orders received should reduce the cost. (Miss Bradford)

## Archery

Well done to Dan Brown and Jacob Foord for winning their respective Archery competitions. But especially to Jacob because he had no archery experience before attending this activity and has consistently impressed me with his accuracy. (Mr Ball)

## Woodwork & Engineering

Some good work has been produced in the Engineering and Tool making classes with tools such as bottle openers, engineer's squares, screwdrivers and whistles. Well done to Zander Smith continuing his love of engineering and stretching me with finding ever more challenging work for him. Also a thank you to Hector Twisk for always being willing to help others.

The woodworkers all completed their tool boxes to a high standard and well done to Malachi Lindley for using his time in woodwork to enhance his wood-working knowledge in preparation for his DT exam. (Mr Ball)



## Farm

On the dairy front we're coming to the time when the synchronisation is nearly over and the dairy cows are to be inseminated so that we can move to autumn calving. As I've said before, the two main reasons are that we grow very little grass over the summer, and the boys will be back from their summer break and ready for calving to kick off. The cows have also had their routine vaccinations for leptospirosis and BVD and it was great to be TB free too! With the beef cattle, all of the young stock are now housed. We have recently been selling some of the older store cattle. We were very happy with the prices that we received. The next group will probably be ready for sale in the spring and we may try to finish a steer to be available for sale in the spring too.



The ewes are now away from the rams and awaiting scanning in the new (hopefully better) year. They seem to be motoring through the grass so maybe before they come in they may have to be offered a bit of hay and concentrate depending on weather, condition and scanning results.

This year's lambs have been in for a month now. A few were suffering with worms; there was a bit of resistance to the drench but since they've been in they have really picked up and it's handy to have a nice new shed to keep them in.

Both of our sows have now been served and have hopefully held to the service. We have kept back two gilts for future breeding from the original litters and it would be nice to find a couple of pedigree gilts to add to the herd, so if anyone has or knows of any please contact the farm team. We have recently sent off three porkers for slaughter and we will have hopefully sold out of Christmas packs of meat by now. Sausages will probably be still available if you wish to enquire, and as well as the sausages we have made bacon, which I'm looking forward to tasting.

We have sold 19 turkeys this year. Again, as always, the boys are involved in the preparation. They get to see the process from the rearing of the bird to the dressing. Moreover, they continue to amaze me as to how careful and respectful of the bird they are, as all of the birds were hand plucked and not a single tear of the skin. Bird flu has reared its ugly head again and we have been busy building a chicken pen in our new multi-purpose shed. It's nice and light and airy as well as being fox-proof. Looking on the positive side it will give the chicken paddock a bit of a rest which it does need. (Mr Kingston)

## Design Technology

As we finish this busy year we are close to completing our new layout in the metal workshop. Some machines have gone, others have moved and new ones added. The keen eyed of you will notice we are not quite complete and tools boards are still being added and minor changes tidied up.

The change has been driven through in response to COVID needs for extra space, changing class sizes and changes to curriculum expectations. Both staff and students have worked hard and the results have been fantastic. The space now allows us to do what we want but in a much more efficient and pleasant way.

Don't worry, the pure Engineering capability is still at the core of what we teach and boys still get a great chance to experience real work in a real environment. Make sure you pop in when we are next open. Keep your eye out for more changes to Workshop 2 (the ancient home of Mr Sherlock) and a possible remodelling of the Woodwork room too. (Mr Austin)





## Remembrance

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

Ordinarily we would have members of the Old Brymorians come along. In order to protect them and our protective measures at school this year, they did not attend but we are looking forward to welcoming them back next year. Ethan Carr, who was in Year 11 last year came to represent all the old boys and to present the school with a project he had worked on for his DT GCSE: a poppy holder specifically for this occasion!

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 members of the Student Senior Leadership Team, moved slowly to the front of school house, where the wreaths were placed in memory of all who lost their lives. (Ms Warren)



## FoBSA

It has been another strange half term in our FoBSA Family. This is always our quietest half term, but we usually manage a Bingo evening and some meetings. It is so strange not seeing you and we do miss you!

We have had the clothes collection where we collected a whopping 630 Kilo's of textiles and this made £189 for us. We will arrange another collection in the spring, so when you do your spring cleaning please think of us. We have had some donations from the Harvest Festival, some general cash donations and some uniform sales.

We have supplied the Maths Department with new scientific calculators which will be used by all the boys, costing £525.98 and we gave £1200 to the farm which was their share of the money from Lambing Day in March but as lockdown hit soon after we were unable to meet to work out the details.

As you hopefully have seen, we are having an online Christmas competition with many different categories including best looking cake and funniest elf on the shelf. Check out the full list on the FoBSA website [www.fobsa.org.uk](http://www.fobsa.org.uk) and get your pictures in to us - the deadline is 31st December so a great project for boys to do to help fill their Christmas holidays!

Please like our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/156128151141948>

Please sign up for easyfundraising:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofbrymore/>

All that remains is for us to thank all the staff for their continued support and to thank all of our wonderful parents for supporting us.

We wish you all a very safe and Merry Christmas (even if a little strange this year) and we hope to see you all in 2021. Please stay safe and enjoy your family time, Debbie, Martin and all at Team FoBSA.

## SSLT Christmas Dinner

Our annual prefect dinner is usually an event that takes place at our local eatery, Blackmore Farm. However, due to COVID-19 this was not an option but we were determined to still run it - just under different circumstances.

The boys from Year 11, who help us lead the school on a daily basis, were treated to take-away pizza and homemade desserts (from Blackmore Farm to ensure a touch of authenticity) as our way of thanking them for all they do. Our Senior Leadership Team were on hand to help serve the boys and Mr Thomas gave a speech along with the Head Boy, George, and the night ended with a rendition of Silent Night with Bennett on the piano! We think they all had a great night as went off into the dark full of laughs and still singing! (Ms Warren)



## Staff Emails and IT

We are having an IT overhaul and along with the Trust replacing lots of our computers all staff will be issued with new email addresses and the old ones will no longer be able to be accessed. The new email addresses will be the staff full name with a dot in between forename and surname:

[@brymoreacademy.co.uk](mailto:@brymoreacademy.co.uk) and we will update the handbook and app as soon as we can but please bear with us. The school will have no IT access for the first week of the Christmas holidays including staff working remotely, due to this upgrade. (Ms Warren)



## Site Maintenance Friday Activities

When you next come into school and drive up our magnificent Chestnut Drive, take time to look to your right where the stream flows. This term various boys have volunteered on their Friday Activity session to stand in that cold stream, or fight the never ending war with the bramble hedge. Why? To clear the stand of trees on the far side.

Together they have stripped the ivy, cleared back undergrowth and chopped down the unnecessary tree growth to rediscover and smarten up the second stand of trees bordering the hedge line. The pictures should give you some idea of the task, before and after.

It's a thankless job that often goes unnoticed. There have been many wet wellies, cold fingers and bramble thorn removal

sessions, but the boys of all ages have done excellent work and they know they have made a difference to their school. Try and remember to spot their work and smile next time you travel up the drive. (Mr Austin)





## Christmas at Brymore

A Christmas at Brymore in ordinary circumstances is not like the festive season at other schools, however, we have definitely done our best to ensure it's felt twinkly! We have decorated the boarding houses, put trees in reception and the dining hall, raised money for the Smiles for Christmas campaign, worn festive jumpers for the Old Brymorians charity and 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. Unfortunately practising carols in assembly and the tradition of all years mixing in a buzz of frivolity had to go out the window, but then 2020 has done that for pretty much everything....at least we got Lambing Day in just before lockdown!

Our Christmas lunch day was full of cheer and Christmas knitwear and the boarding houses had some good cluster Covid safe parties along with their 'feast' night before the rush to pack and leave for the break and our virtual carol service is available for all. Our end of term awards were presented via Microsoft Teams to all tutor groups and certificates for the subject award winners were handed out. As we waved the boys off to enjoy the Christmas break the staff breathed a sigh of relief that we'd made it to the end of the Autumn term in one piece and nobody being sent home with any COVID-19 cases. (Ms Warren)





## Sports News

Numbers at rugby training continue to be good and seeing new faces come along is always really pleasing, so it's never too late for boys to join in on their training night. We have been going through conditioning work because of lockdown 2.0 and paid a lot of attention to games for understanding. We appreciate that things are different at the moment but hope to get fixtures going after Christmas as the RFU have approved 15-a- side to go ahead, depending on other schools and travelling.

Chads is still getting good numbers but those parents who have a son that isn't a regular participator please encourage him to come along at 4.00pm. Chads is an integral part of school life and throughout the application process for your son to come here it is mentioned, so please delay picking your son up one day a week or give him a call at 3.50pm to remind him that he needs to run. Every boy who runs earns merits which go towards the house trophy. We have updated lists of Chads on MS TEAMS so ask your son to login and show him his time or his number of runs. We'd also ask that anyone driving in or out of school around the Chads time to be mindful of the runners and drive cautiously.

Excitingly we had Simon Beck come into school to map it out for orienteering. Simon did this for us some years ago and came back to update the information. If his name rings a bell it is because he famously creates snow and sand pictures across the world. Look him up on the internet! (Mr Williams)



## Table Cricket

This half term we had a coach come in from the Somerset Cricket Board to teach our Year 8 sports leaders the rules of table cricket and then help them teach others in their year how to play the game. We have also managed to procure a discounted table cricket set and will be looking to roll out showing others the game when restrictions ease a little on bubbles mixing. The feedback from the coach at the cricket board was that they were the best group he has ever taken and the boys really loved spending time learning and playing this. (Mr Williams)



## BRYMORE LOTTERY

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

<b>1<sup>st</sup> place - £40.00</b>	<b>Mr Roger Berry</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> place - £25.00</b>	<b>Mrs Hazel Priest</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> place - £15.00</b>	<b>Mrs Rachael Hector</b>

Congratulations all.

It's not too late! If you would like to join the school Lottery please let Mrs Catley-Day in the office know asap please. You have to be in it to win it!



# House Reading Competition

The House that reads the most words in the school year receives 500 house points towards their house end of year total. The totals so far this year:

Galsworthy	Taylor	Walker
9,322,974	10,910,880	10,539,934

Back in October, Walker took an early lead, but two months on, Taylor are now leading the way!

We would like to give special mention to the top readers in each class, these boys are consistently reading for over 20 minutes on average each day. They are all well on their way to achieving their annual reading target.

Year 7:

Thomas Endicott, Tristan Hoy, TJ Pearce, Charlie Sanders and Ben Sawyer

Year 8:

Samuel Adetunji, Ben Bagg, James Bagg, Liam Hector and Alex Warton-Browne

Year 9:

Aaron Adotevi, Sam Chedgey, Max Harcombe, Toby Moyle, Todd Moyle and Anthony Vessier

Although COVID-19 has made it very difficult for us to run rewards trips this year, we are looking at doing some in-house entertainment, as we wish to reward the boys for their efforts.

We now have three word millionaires and three word multi-millionaires:

Thomas Endicott (2,322,172). Toby Moyle (2,061,613). Ben Sawyer (2,044,307).

Tristan Hoy (1,344,197). Todd Moyle (1,248,628). Charlie Sanders (1,052,899).

The top performing class across key stage 3 is still 7.2, who have passed 203 quizzes and read for an average of 32 minutes per day.

## 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

You can see how well your son is progressing towards his target by visiting:

<https://ukhosted85.renlearn.co.uk/2259563/homeconnect/> and log in in with your son's username and password. Should you require any assistance or have any questions please contact me on [vmcfall@educ.somerset.gov.uk](mailto:vmcfall@educ.somerset.gov.uk)

## Rewards for your class!

The class who reads the most books in a term receives a reward lesson. The first reward lesson will be during the last week, before the Christmas break.

### \*Reward trips!

33% of target by December

72 % of target by summer term 1 to secure a place! Good luck boys! (Ms McFall)

\*Reward trips are currently on hold due to COVID-19.



## Year 9 BTEC Agriculture

Our Year 9 boys have a unique opportunity and that is to complete their BTEC in Agriculture during Year 9, meaning they have a GCSE equivalent qualification already before they take their exams in Year 11. The current Year 9 group have one assignment under their belt and have just submitted their second one for me to mark over the Christmas break, and by the look of what I have seen there is some great work to look through. This years boys have done outstandingly so far and a big well done to the following who achieved a distinction, equal to an old 'A' grade) in their first piece of work:

Ryan Ayres, George Billett, Sid Bush, Hadley Carreras-Bennett, Harvey Chappell, Sam Chedgey, Digby Freeth, Harry Golding, William Guest, Max Jefferies, Toby Moyle, Charlie O'Brien, Fraser Philips, Zac Rexworthy, Henri Rowe, Toby Sadler and Ellis Tennant.

I am really proud of their efforts and it is not too late for all boys to achieve higher marks in the future . They need to ask Mr Thomas or myself how to increase the grade of their theory work. (Miss Marks)

## Work Experience

We are planning for the Year 10s to have a week of Work Experience in the summer (28th June to 2nd July 2021) and for that the boys need to have a placement. This should already have been organised. We had asked that the paperwork was with us by the end of this term so the Health and Safety checks can be made. Please make every effort to find a placement over the holidays if you have not already secured somewhere, and then get the forms signed and returned to myself or Miss Bradford early next term. In times past students have had apprenticeships, holiday jobs and actual employment though the work experience placement and so it is really worthwhile. (Mr Willcocks)

## Metalwork

The picture is the first guitar shaped bottle opener made by Harry Thorn in Year 8 during our after school activity. It took a lot of effort and determination to make this and we are very proud of him for this. (Mr Ball)

## Year 8 Garden Duties

A reminder to all Year 8s. When you come to duty you **MUST** wear overalls and steel toe capped boots/wellies and you **MUST** change out of your school clothes and put on old clothes or sports kit. You will also need to have wet weather gear and warmer clothes for January and February. (Mr Willcocks)



## Forest School

We continue to enjoy our morning outdoors being exposed to the elements and breathing in the fresh air and I feel the Year 7s enjoy it just as much as the staff! The boys particularly enjoy the lighting of our campfire for us to then sit down and drink hot chocolate and discuss what we have done as a group. Grateful thanks go to Sedgemoor Tree Services for providing the material for the mallet making process as this is much appreciated by all the boys and myself. (Mr Ball)

## Art Projects

Our lower school have been working on some big things in their art lessons this half-term. Year 7 were working on medieval artefacts and their homework was to create shields from this period in time. Stepping into the art room is like taking a step back in time and is full of some hugely wild and wonderful shields showing that the boys put lots of effort into this project. Mr Thomas, Mrs Legg and Miss Owen have judged the homework brought in and the following boys were crowned winners for Year 7 - Ronnie Amestoy, Lucas Anderson, Sam Findlay, Joe Williams and Jack Wynn. The judges were so impressed that the following boys were also announced as highly commended: Jack Guilding, Jadan Knight, Marley Lamb, Max Osborne and Gethin White. Well done boys!



Not to be outdone by their younger compatriots our Year 8 boys worked on cardboard models this half term and were set the task of making buildings from boxes. Again they pulled out all the stops and with everything from farm buildings to industrial structures and chocolate box cottages complete with snow and lights, the boys really did themselves proud. It's always a joy to see how proud boys are of their work and we hope they continue to put this work ethic towards all they do. (Ms Warren)



## LRC

The LRC is coping well with the restrictions placed on it. All books spend a minimum of 36 hours in quarantine before being scanned and put back on the shelves. Over 50 new books have been added to the library stock this term. On the downside 165 are overdue for return, some that were issued before the first lockdown. If your son has a school library book, please ensure that he returns it to the library on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021, which is also the return date for all books that have been issued over the last 10 days. (Miss Bradford)



## Boarding

It only seems like yesterday we opened our doors again for our fantastic boys. How quickly it seems this term has gone. Our focus has been to keep all safe, as well as making sure the boys are still having a positive experience and we believe we have achieved this. Boys have been taking part in lots of activities including Chads, sports, craft activities, manhunt as well as movie nights and a whole lot more! This has meant careful planning and co-operation from boys with boys and staff working together to make this successful. Well done to the boys and you as parents/guardians for your part in co-operating with us during these difficult times.

A global pandemic could not stop the boys from thinking of others this festive period, as the boys were amazing in their efforts to raise £531.30 for our Smiles for Christmas campaign. The money will go to the local Salvation Army and Captain Mark Godwin will use the money to buy foodstuffs and toys for families and children in need in the local area this Christmas time. Usually we ask for donations of foodstuffs/toys and the boys design a hamper for each of the three boarding houses. We had to do something different this year. In addition the boarding houses held a Swingball tournament where staff and students played one another. Hamish Thresher won in School House, Reuben Kerr in Reid and Tommy Bailey in Kemp. A couple of swingballs did not survive some of the ferocious matches but we got there in the end. Miss Owen's incredible performance nearly got her a final place on finals day but Reuben Kerr won, what was an epic match, and he went on to win the final against Hamish. Well done to Reuben who won a £10 tuck voucher. The monies raised from entry fees went into the same pot as the non-uniform suggested donations.

A remarkable effort was also seen by each boarding house, with their own respective charities. Mrs Webb (Kemp Assistant Houseparent) leads on the boys charity work and she has reported that School House have raised £135.92 for Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance by selling ice cream and other in-house events. Reid House have been raising money for Stand Against Violence and they have raised £100 and this is from selling foodstuffs and holding a raffle. Kemp boys have raised over £800 for Help for Heroes. Kemp boys have embarked upon individual sponsorship events with some remarkable amounts being raised by Gethin White (£237), Marley Lamb (£192) and Ronnie Amestoy (£190). Well done to all of the boys who have made efforts for their House Charities.



In the spirit of charitable help and support it is pertinent to give a special mention to our Mentors. Restricted by COVID-19 measures making accessing mentors not that easy at times, the Mentors have still tried to maintain their key role in supporting our younger years. Without their support and dedication to this, the younger years would not feel as supported as they do. Well done boys!

Boarding welcomed new staff to our team this term. Miss Gyatt has joined us as School House's new Assistant Houseparent. In addition, we have appointed Mrs Featherstone as our new Deputy Head of Boarding and she will begin after Easter.

Christmas tea this year for our boarders was delicious - boys had a Christmas Feast. They had the option of a steak or chicken dinner or a field mushroom dish and the catering team worked hard to ensure it was a magical experience for the boys. The boys wanted this as their Christmas Tea, so we listened and made this happen for them.

It has been a tough year for many, if not all of us, and we only hope you get some quality time with your loved ones and have a truly special Christmas together and you try to make it feel as normal as possible. Thank you again for your commitment to Brymore and we hope the New Year brings joy to you all. (Mr Watts)

# 2020/21 Upcoming Important Dates

## Spring Term 2020/21

### Monday 4th January

INSET DAY

6.00 pm - 9.00 pm

All boarders return

### Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January

8.30 am

All out-boarders return

### Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February

12.00 pm

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

12.30 pm - 4.00 pm

Year 8 Parent Consultation

2.15 pm

Year 11 Depart

### Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

INSET DAY

6.00 pm - 9.00 pm

All boarders return

**No Year 10 Parent Consultation**

### Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

8.30 am

All out-boarders return

### Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April

10.00 am

Raising Achievement Session for Year 11 Parents  
(subject to COVID-19)

11.30 am

Parents Chads Run/Walk (subject to (COVID-19)

2.00 pm

Rugby & Hockey House Finals (subject to (COVID-19)

4.00 pm

All students depart for Easter Holidays

**4.00 pm**

**If COVID-19 restrictions are still in place,  
Year 10 Parent Consultation will take place @ 4.00 pm  
Years 7, 8, 9 & 11 students departing at 4.00 pm and  
Year 10 departing after the Parent Consultation**

### Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April

INSET DAY

3.30 pm - 5.30 pm

Year 9 Parent Consultation

6.00 pm - 9.00 pm

Years 7, 8, 10 & 11 boarders return

#### CONTACT

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