



11+ SCHOLARSHIP SUCCESS

It is always a pleasure to see our pupils do well and the 11+ scholarships this year were no exception.

We have a reputation for preparing children thoroughly up to Common Entrance, and beyond, and we are totally committed to providing them with a truly holistic educational experience.

The very talented Taylor Ball was awarded a Sports Scholarship and Kelsey Love's dedication to music resulted in her gaining a Music Scholarship. Charlie Lewis attained the prestigious Albert Memorial Scholarship for his massive commitment to all areas of school life and Thomas Easey performed exceptionally well in the Mathematics examination resulting in an Academic Exhibition.

All of our children, and especially the scholars, set a great example around the school and are our greatest ambassadors.



L-R Taylor Ball, Kelsey Love, the Headmaster Mr Martin Myers-Allen, Charlie Lewis and Thomas Easey

We are proud of every child and always look for ways of rewarding them. We would especially like to congratulate our 11+ scholars on their success. They will be joined by some equally strong external candidates and we will write more on them once they have all confirmed their places.

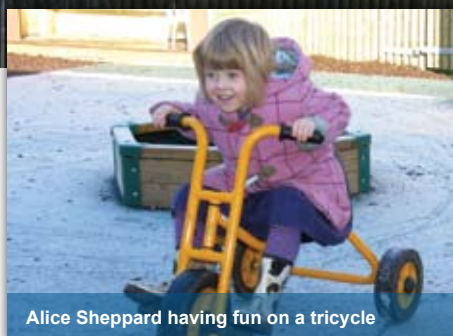
We look forward to announcing similar successes at 13+ later in the term.

The New Nursery



The new nursery building has exceeded our expectations. It now nestles comfortably in the Pre-Prep complex and has established itself as a welcoming start to learning at Brandeston Hall.

The move went very smoothly and, despite the weather, everybody worked hard to get it ready on time.



Alice Sheppard having fun on a tricycle



Snacktime

Mrs Steggles and Mrs Wright have been instrumental in making the transition trouble free and their professionalism and dedication only enhances their reputation further. The nursery is thriving under their strong leadership and more and more parents are choosing to begin their child's education at our school. It is delightful to see so many happy smiling faces around this area and this includes the staff.

Forthcoming Events

Open Morning at Brandeston Hall and Framlingham College

9.30 to Midday
Saturday 9th May 2009

Spectacular Dracula!

For three nights last term the Rowley Hall was transformed into the eerie world of Transylvania as the Brandeston Hall seniors performed an adaptation of *Dracula, The Musical*.

Brandeston's new drama teacher, Mrs Fiona Brooks directed 50 pupils from Years 6, 7 and 8 through the original adaptation created by her playwright husband, Mr Robin Brooks and Director of Music, Mr Rob Rogers.



Each performance stunned audiences by the superb talents of pupils such as Sebastian Treacy and Jack Walton who played Dracula and Jonathan Harker respectively and Molly Drnec and Victoria Easey, who were cast as Mina and Lucy. Along with vampyresses, wolves, peasants and bats, they came together to produce a performance to remember.



Sebastian Treacy & Molly Drnec



Jack Walton

Countdown to Christmas Pre-Prep Production 2008

The children in Pre-Prep performed a vastly entertaining and colourful rendition of 'Countdown to Christmas' last term.

Mr Rogers arranged the nativity tableau and provided every child with the songs on CD weeks before the event so that the words could be learned in the car and home. The children came dressed in traditional costumes and performed to a packed audience slowly unveiling the word 'Christmas', letter by letter, in a musical extravaganza interspersed with comical pieces. This was a typically polished production and helped get governors, parents, staff and children in the mood for the festive holiday.



L-R Georgia Howell, Charlie Whyte, Isabel Whyte, Rufus Easey & Isabella Prince



Inn Keeper Tadhg Wilson



Hattie Reader

Boarders' Activities

One of the highlights of this term's boarders' activities must be the Sunday we spent creating music from rubbish.

The boarders used the morning session to make a whole range of instruments, from drums out of plastic containers to shakers and rattles from scraps of wood. In the afternoon Mr Rogers helped compose a selection of rhythms that we played out on the various drums, lids and buckets. This noisy but entertaining arrangement was performed to the school in assembly the following morning.



Brandon Langridge and Mr Rogers make some plate cymbals

Other activities this term have included *shooting at the College range, go-karting and creating pieces of jewellery for Mother's Day.*



The Boarders drum ensemble

Spring Concert



L-R Georgina Clarke-Gifford, Andie Newport, Victoria Easey and Molly Drnec, vocal section of Funky Monkeys

The Spring Concert took place on 10th February and featured all the large ensembles.

Junior and Senior vocal groups performed with enthusiasm and delivered 'It's a Sunny Day' and 'Believe'. Groove machine played three songs including Song 2 by Blur and the Funky Monkeys gave a sparkling version of 'Money, Money, Money' by ABBA. Tooti Frooti, a group comprising the most advanced musicians played two baroque pieces with quite a lot of musical detail. The newly formed Pizz 'n arco (string players) played a selection of well known tunes. The Orchestra was sounding really splendid and played three difficult pieces lasting about 10 minutes.

The standard was very encouraging and many compliments were given as to the wonderful playing as well as the brilliant way that everyone supported each other with impeccable behaviour when off-stage. Well done everyone!



Max Falconer



Emily Heldreich, Alex Holland and Kitty Dunham with flutes



The Orchestra



Year 8 ICT Animations

As part of their ICT syllabus this term, Year 8 have undertaken an animation project. Initially the pupils use PlayMobil characters to create stop-frame animations (see picture) with the 2Simple 2Animate program. They then progressed to creating figures out of modelling clay and used the more advance program, 'I Can Animate', to produce Nick Park style animations. Whilst at times the room appeared more like a child's playroom the result was some stunning clips.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Emily sings for the Girls Choir South

Emily Heldreich has been selected to sing for the prestigious Girls Choir South, one of five choirs that sit within the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain.

The NYCGB was established in 1983 with the intention of moulding "the best young voices throughout the land into a Choir that could rival the very best in the world". Emily impressed the panel during the auditions, singing Lara's Theme from Dr. Zhivago and the Dalmatian Cradle Song. She will now be attending courses in choral training, with an aim to being selected for the Training Choir, where some members move on to forge a career in singing. There may also be opportunities to join the National Youth Choir.

The Headmaster, Martin Myers-Allen commented, "We were overjoyed to learn that Emily had been successful. She is a very popular and cheerful student with an infectious love of singing. She has a tremendous amount of talent and is thoroughly supported by her singing teacher, Mrs Pam Vinten, the Director of Music, Mr Rob Rogers and by her parents".



Emily Heldreich with Mrs Vinten & Mr Rogers

Sports Report

Kristian captains Prep Schools Barbarians

Kristian Williman (pictured) has been selected to represent the Barbarians Under 13 Rugby team for the South East of England Prep Schools.

Kristian, who is also part of the Eastern Counties rugby school and plays club rugby at Diss Rugby Club, follows in the footsteps of former Brandeston Hall boys and Diss players Will Owen, Matthew Warren, Jack Scott and Jack Pearson, who were selected last year.

Following an outstanding performance at scrum-half for the South East Prep Schools Barbarians, Kristian who captained the side to a 44-5 victory was selected to play against the South West of England Barbarians on January 4th. The Barbarians team was coached by England and British Lions legend Roger Uttley who also ran the very successful Rugby Academy at Brandeston back in August.



Netballers Unbeaten

Following in the foot-steps of last year's Under 13 Netball team, who had remained unbeaten for three years, Brandeston's youngest netballers, the U9 A netball team (pictured) have also recorded an unbeaten season this year.

They have played five matches against local schools, scoring a total of 29 goals and conceding just seven. They have also won two tournaments. At the Brandeston Hall Tournament, they won each of the five matches in the opening rounds, with a clear win over Orwell Park. A week later in very wet conditions, having won their opening four matches, they beat South Lee in a very close final to win the Old Buckenham Hall Tournament.

Badminton Course

During the Christmas holiday, pupils in Years 4-9 (pictured) participated in two badminton coaching days run by England coach Stephen Morley.

This is the first time that any badminton coaching has been held at Brandeston and it proved very successful, with many pupils improving dramatically in just one day!

As a result of very positive feedback, more badminton coaching days will be held at the beginning of the Easter holidays.



Susannah Reid retains her County title

Following her win in the Suffolk Cross-Country Championships in October and the Suffolk Series A Race at RHS Holbrook in December, Susannah was in the medals again to retain her county title.

She finished in first place in the Suffolk Amateur Athletics Association Cross-Country Under 13 Race at Haughley Park near Stowmarket earlier this year. The race featured the best girls in the county, which did not deter

Susannah as she led from the start, managing to keep ahead of her nearest rival, Alice Cheverton of Waveney Valley A.C., and finishing a considerable 20 metres ahead of her!

In the team event, Brandeston finished runners-up to St Edmund Pacers, following similar strong runs by Tabitha Ives and Georgia Scott.

As a result of this superb run, Susannah (pictured) has been selected to run at the UK Cross-Country Championships at Wollaton Park in Nottingham in March.

