

# contents

The Brandeston Hall Yearbook 2007

- 02 The Second Master's Introduction
- 03 In the classroom
- 06 Academic Matters
- 06 Music
- 07 Drama
- 10 Playing the game - sport
- 13 Boarding at Brandeston
- 14 Out and about - activities
- 15 Charity news



## THE SECOND MASTER'S INTRODUCTION



MR ROBIN SAMPSON

It is appropriate to start the introduction to the Brandeston Hall section of the Yearbook by offering my thanks to Nigel and Paula Woolnough for all they have achieved during their two years at the school. They made a considerable impact during their time with us and I am sure you will join me in wishing them every success in the future.

Where did 2006/7 go? However, it is not until you look back and review the year that you realise just what has been achieved and what fantastic opportunities have been presented to the pupils at the school. Brandeston continues to provide academic success, a breadth of opportunity inside and outside the classroom as well as ensuring the pupils maintain the highest personal qualities and standards.

On the academic front the 13+ Common Entrance results were excellent and it was good to see our talented pupils rewarded with a number of scholarships at 11+ and 13+ from Framlingham College and other top independent schools.

Our academic programme continues to be enriched by a variety of different activities throughout the year. Science Week, Book Week, Latino Day, Egyptian Day, as well as trips to exhibitions in London, the Norwich Puppet Theatre, Minsmere, Kentwell Hall, Skern Lodge, Kingswood and many more enabled the pupils to experience a much wider curriculum. Trips to France, Italy as well as hosting pupils from Eastern Europe enabled our pupils to gain a wider understanding of different countries and their cultures.

Our senior pupils performed a wonderful version of 'Macbeth' in the autumn term and the juniors presented a colourful, foot tapping version of 'The Jungle Book' in the spring. The final concert of the summer provided a spectacular feast of music with soloists, duets, groups, orchestras and choirs involving pupils from all age groups taking part.

Mr Wilson and his boarding team continue to provide a supportive and caring environment for our boarding community. If you have seen the exciting programme of events on offer to our boarders you will understand why boarding retains its popularity.

On the sports field, the Brandeston teams continued to perform to a high standard with the tennis growing ever stronger. The international sports academies proved very popular providing our pupils and pupils from other schools with top quality coaching in the holidays.

And finally, my thanks to all the staff at the school who work so hard to make the Brandeston experience so special.

Mr Robin Sampson, Second Master





### Nursery report

Life in the nursery continues to thrive and the children really enjoy their time in Foundation House. Experimental play is such an important part of a child's development. The children have become engrossed in topics such as wind, water and wheels. They have created pneumatic systems, reinvented the car and launched hot air balloons. They have had a lot of fun and learned a wide variety of new skills on their well-planned and well-paced transition to Reception class.

*Mrs Ruth Steggles, Head of Nusery*

ABOVE: THORNHAM WALKS BEAR HUNT  
BELOW L-R: TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC,  
VICTORIAN TOYS AT HOLLYTREES  
MUSEUM, SINGING IN THE RAIN.

### Reception report

What a busy time we have had in Reception! The children have been involved in many hands on activities to enhance their knowledge and have had opportunities to learn both indoors and outdoors, regardless of the weather! Highlights of the year have included a teddy bears' picnic, using the interactive white board, making castles in the courtyard, creating a jungle in the classroom and tasting lots of new and exciting foods.

During the year the children also enjoyed joining with the Nursery on several occasions to celebrate events such as Guy Fawkes' Day and Pancake Day.

*Mrs R Lemke*

### Year 1 report

What fun we've had this year. We started with a trip to Thornham Walks and went on a bear hunt using our senses to explore that wonderful environment.

Our history topics of toys and homes were followed through by a trip to Hollytrees Museum in Colchester where we dressed up as children from 100 years ago and handled many historic artefacts there, consolidating our knowledge.

Other highlights have been painting our own still life pictures, designing and making houses and fruit salads, teddy bears' picnics, tasting Indian food, making clay bowls for Mother's Day, flag waving for the visit by HRH The Earl and Countess of Wessex, making our own instruments, using the new ICT suite, finding out how to

make a light bulb light up, experiments with magnets and of course, Pre Prep Sports Day. We are now looking forward to being in Year Two.





## Year 2 Report

This has been a super year for us!

We have been on two field trips to Thornham Field Centre and to Minsmere, both of which were greatly enjoyed, resulting in much wonderful outdoor learning of Science and Maths.

We have learnt about Stories Jesus Told, Guy Fawkes, Remembrance Day, Horatio Nelson, Phoebe Hessel, Harriet Tubman, the Torah, Celebrations, and in addition have travelled the world with Gerald Durrell in a hot air balloon.

In English and Art, a highlight was listening to the local author Jamie Wood. He came to share his stories with us, about a boat called Bertie Blue. We have also worked hard to fill our Merit pots and enjoyed a teddy bears' picnic and a day in a tepee making totem poles.

*Mrs Margaret Graystone*

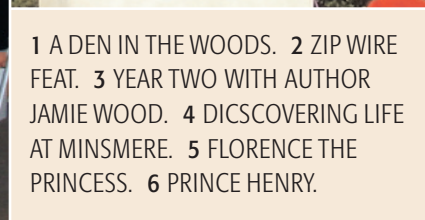
## ...AN EXCELLENT CHANCE TO WORK TOGETHER AS A TEAM

## Year 3 Report

A busy, fun packed year draws to a close. During an Egyptian Day the children dressed up and completed a day in the life of an Egyptian. The Year 3 classrooms were filled with Egyptian princes and princesses, servants and archers and the children learnt how to scribe and write in hieroglyphics before enjoying a well earned Egyptian feast.

The residential trip to Kingswood was a huge success, allowing everybody to try new things, learn new skills and conquer fears. The children thoroughly enjoyed the huge variety of activities available and this proved to be an excellent chance to work together as a team.

*Miss Morgan and Miss Tassera, English Department*



1 A DEN IN THE WOODS. 2 ZIP WIRE FEAT. 3 YEAR TWO WITH AUTHOR JAMIE WOOD. 4 DISCOVERING LIFE AT MINSMERE. 5 FLORENCE THE PRINCESS. 6 PRINCE HENRY.





## Year 4 Report

Another busy year, filled with exciting activities and adventure for all pupils in Year 4. We managed to cram in two visits to Framlingham Library with guest readers Paula Woolnough and Deborah Vass. There were four cake stalls, which were a huge success and grateful thanks go to all the mums who baked for Brandeston! A trip to Castleton, Yorkshire, the Suffolk Showground trip, a play for a day... the activities are too numerous to mention. However, the experiences, hopefully, will be remembered by all participants and remain with them as part of a growing collection of happy school day memories.

*Mr C Parker*



## Year 5 Report

Year 5 have enjoyed many 'themed' days this year. The pupils experienced 'The Wind in the Willows' as a play in a day with some children performing the main characters and others transforming themselves into trees with coloured leaves. During Science Week, Year 5 had a go at making brightly coloured slime and investigated whether it was a liquid or a solid. They also released helium balloons from the steps of the Rowley Hall and they now look forward to hearing from anyone around the world who may find them. The children had a cosy afternoon in the cinema in Ipswich watching Charlotte's Web and they loved the excitement of Latino Day when they learnt to dance with other children – having the confidence to perform in front of the whole school.

*Mrs N Harding, Head of Maths*

1 MEASURING UP. 2 YEAR FOUR AT FRAMLINGHAM LIBRARY. 3 BEHIND THE MASK. 4 YEAR FIVE ABOUT TO LAUNCH HELIUM BALLOONS. 5 PLAY IN A DAY.



## Year 6 Report

The thirty-three members of 6CL and 6CSG enjoyed a busy and successful year, which included a number of exciting excursions and one or two new challenges.

Early in the Autumn Term, on a particularly good Monday, the pupils were whisked off to Legoland in order to see for themselves how modern technology is used to make the impressive exhibits work. Naturally, time to sample a few of the rides was built in!

There were two big occasions for dressing up. The first was the ever-popular annual trip to Kentwell Hall. This June visit, masterminded by Mr Clough, involved a spot of travel to Tudor times, which demanded appropriate clothing.

A further highlight was the thought-provoking Year Six assembly, on the theme of social exclusion and inclusion. This anticipated the Peer Support Scheme, introduced to Year 6 pupils as they set out in Year 7.

*Mr C Lenton, Year 6 Tutor*

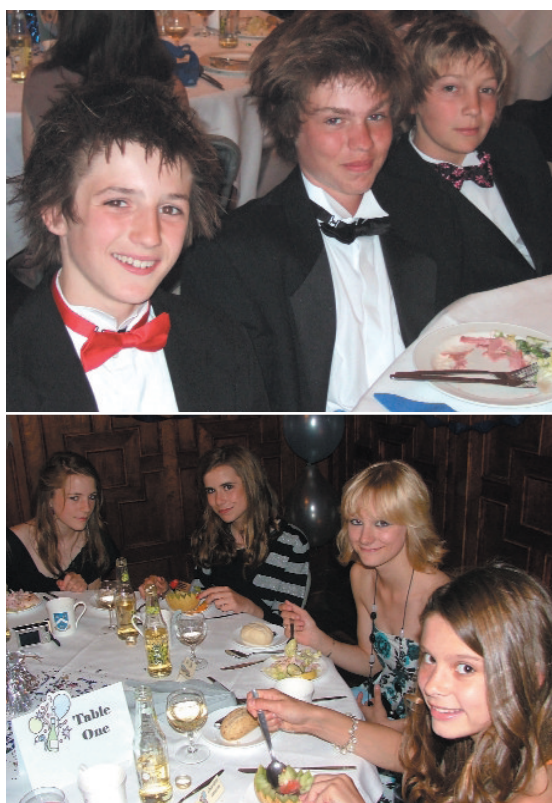


## Year 7 Report

September saw a large influx of new pupils, including four sports scholars from Diss Rugby Club. So large was the turnover, that a whole day early in the academic year was given over to integrating all the old hands with the new recruits. Soon everyone was rubbing along like old friends. Another early highlight was the trip to Framlingham to indulge in some, history, geography and science, using the castle, the mere and the Market Hill. Year 7 welcomed Mrs Moon to the school as a tutor, to work alongside Mrs Norton and Mr Clough. Overall, it was an enjoyable and innovative year.

*Mr J Clough, Head of History*

## Year 8 Report



A highlight for Year 8 was their Leavers Dinner (*pictured above*) and Disco held on the Saturday evening after their return from Skern Lodge. As the pupils arrived in an array of vehicles not to mention one young man on a horse – there were many comments as to the beautiful dresses worn by the girls and how handsome and grown

up the boys looked in their dinner jackets. The evening started with drinks for parents and pupils followed by dinner for the pupils and staff. The dining room was beautifully decorated with streamers and helium balloons. As always, the kitchen staff provided a delicious buffet and everyone had an enjoyable meal. The disco was loud and everyone had a great time.

As part of their post CE programme Year 8 had a Personal Safety Day. They had three sessions during the day. Our Matron, Julie Tye, a member of St. John's Ambulance, taught them some basic first aid including the recovery position and CPR. PC Kevin Stephenson looked at safety on the internet and in other situations, whilst Windy Miller, our Karate instructor, showed them some basic self defence. An interesting and useful day was enjoyed by all.

## Senior English Report

It was all change in the Senior English Department at Brandeston Hall this year. Mrs Jan Norton took over as Head of Department and was joined, with their wealth of experience, by Mrs Deborah Vass, Miss Susan Johnson and Miss Helen Morgan.

The highlight for Year Six came in the Summer Term with a joint focus on producing a tourist pamphlet about Aldeburgh, after a very sunny visit there, and Shakespeare, culminating in their marvellous open air production of excerpts from many Shakespearean plays, directed by the Drama Department.

Year 7 focussed on the genre 'Short Stories with a Twist' and spent much of their final weeks producing one of their own.

Year 8's highlight was probably their visit to The Globe, Tate Modern, Covent Garden and watching the thrilling 'Woman In Black'.

*Mrs J Norton, Head of English*

We welcomed a few new faces to the teaching staff in 2006/7. Mrs Harding took over the reins of the Maths Department and Mrs Moon the Science Department. Miss Johnson, Miss Morgan and Miss Tassera joined the Junior Prep Department and Mrs Vass joined the English Department and assisted with the school Library.

The facilities were enhanced by the addition of a new ICT suite in Room 1 and more computers and interactive whiteboards in a number of other classrooms. ICT was added to the curriculum for Year 7 and 8 with Drama lessons for all pupils in the Junior and Senior Prep.

On the scholarship front, Brandeston pupils excelled with Framlingham College and other independent schools offering and awarding scholarships to a number of our

**...HAPPY ENGAGED  
CHILDREN REALLY  
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BETTER.**

outstanding pupils. At 13+, Framlingham College has continued to recognise the quality of pupils developed at Brandeston by awarding scholarships across a range of areas. Pupils moving to other schools were also rewarded, with Eleanor Smith (Head of School) receiving an academic scholarship to Oundle and Laurence Sutton being given the Headmaster's Award at Oakham.

At 11+, excellence was also recognised with number of our home-grown pupils being awarded scholarships.

The 13+ Common Entrance results in the Summer were excellent with Tristan Ellis, Emily Higgins, Anna Thorne and Christina Welsh all receiving straight A or A\* grades.

We introduced a new standardised test for all pupils from Nursery to Year 6. PIPS (Performance Indicators In Primary Schools) is a relatively simple test that enables us to compare the performance of our own pupils in English and Maths (Science in Year 6) with the rest of the country. It is pleasing to report that the Brandeston pupils performed well in these tests.

Finally, as you look through the



## MUSIC

Yearbook, I hope you will be impressed with the variety of activities that take place at Brandeston. The workshops, trips, theme days and competitions are all great fun but also provide valuable extension and enrichment to our academic work. Happy engaged children really do learn far better.

*Mr R Sampson, Second Master*



ABOVE: 13+ (L-R)

BACK ROW – TRISTAN ELLIS, KATIE RUTHERFORD, HENRY PAULLEY, RYAN CLARKE, BRIAN WAN, MIMI O'NEILL AND LAURENCE SUTTON.

MIDDLE ROW – CHRISTINA WELSH, OLIVIA COWLEY, ELEANOR SMITH, EMILY HIGGINS AND SAM BIGDEN.

FRONT ROW – CHARLOTTE LAWSON, EMILY WILFORD, GEORGE KERRIDGE, JAMES HOOD AND ANNA THORNE.



ABOVE: 11+ (L-R)

SUSANNAH REID, ALASDAIR BEVAN-MARGETTS, TOM RIDLEY AND CHARLIE O'NEILL.

The school year began with a series of informal recitals, harvest festival, arts festival and our annual evening of mulled wine and carols. The term concluded with the carol service, accompanied by our orchestra, Pre-Prep and school choirs.

The Spring term brought with it lots of hard work for our scholarship candidates at 11+ and 13+, all of whom were successful in gaining awards this year. Well done to Anna Thorne, Mimi O'Neill, Brian Wan, George Kerridge, Charlie O'Neill and Alasdair Bevan-Margetts.

We enjoyed a superb evening of jazz at mid-term, held in the dining room. This proved a huge success and one we will definitely be repeating in the future.

Finally, as the year draws to a close, we again enjoyed a variety of recitals, by both Pre-Prep and Prep pupils, a multi-cultural day and closed the year with our leaver's concert which really was a Summer spectacular! Well done to all those musicians who have performed so brilliantly and given so much this year.

*Mrs C Gower, Director of Music*



ABOVE: CHARLOTE SUMMERS ON RECORDER. RIGHT (T-B): GEORGE KERRIDGE PLAYS JAZZ, LATINO DAY SAMBA WORKSHOP, SAFFRON WILFORD IN THE SUMMER CONCERT.





### Drama: expanded programme

September 2006 saw a dramatic new chapter open at Brandeston Hall. Drama is now firmly in place on the timetable for children in Years 3–8. During the year a wide range of skills have been covered as part of the new curriculum; from simple mime, role-play and still image work, to performance poetry, monologue and debating tasks. Children regularly work in groups of differing size, encouraging co-operation and communication skills. Performance is a key aspect of the subject, and children build confidence performing to their peers, and also as part of school assemblies when appropriate. As the curriculum develops and grows in the coming years, the children will be able to use key drama skills will enhance their learning across the school, and increase their personal development as well.

### Junior Production

Pupils in Years 3–5 participated in a striking celebration of dramatic talent for this term's Junior Production of Walt Disney's "The Jungle Book". Lively, colourful and enthusiastic performances were very well attended. Staff on the production team were most impressed by the way the actors rose to the challenge of performing in the round. Our thanks and congratulations to all concerned.

### Play in a Day: 'Wind in the Willows'

On Tuesday, 4th October, 'Splats' entertainment company visited the school. During the day, all children in Years 3 to 6



took part in workshops led by 'Splats' staff, in which they each rehearsed a scene from the story.

While not rehearsing, the children were busy preparing props and scenery for the show with their tutors. The children made huge wheels, leaf garlands, enormous flower heads and beautiful sign posts; all of which they used during the afternoon performance.

By linking the 4 scenes together, the children performed their version of "Wind in the Willows" to each other and an audience of proud parents. It was a wonderfully entertaining performance, involving over one hundred children in co-ordinated, practical drama.

Thanks must go to the staff for their efforts with prop creation, and to all the children involved for their enthusiastic participation.

### Year 6 Summer Shakespeare Spectacular 2007

With a break in tradition, I decided to set this terrific event on and around the beautiful terraces of Brandeston Hall itself. All Year 6 pupils were involved in presenting 14 pieces of Shakespeare, taken from nine of the Bard's finest; as well as a sixty second version of Macbeth!

The scene was set and the audience enjoyed picnics, Pimms, and live music on the lawn.

The performances by all children on the evening were tremendous; heard by all, and drawing praise for their clarity and use of expression. As the audience moved around the terrace, so the backdrop for each piece changed, creating a rich, most atmospheric set.

Well done to the children of Year 6, and to the production team; Mme Goodin, Mrs Gibbons, and extremely useful assistant director, Mimi O'Neill of Year 8.

*Mr C Parker, Director, Head of Drama*

LEFT: JUNIORS IN 'THE JUNGLE BOOK'.  
RIGHT T-B: CHARLIE O'NEIL AS HENRY V,  
ELLEN HUTSON AS MACBETH, SUZIE AS  
PUCK, AND FLORENCE ELSON AS JULIET.







LEFT: CURTAIN CALL. ABOVE: KATIE RUTHERFORD AND BELOW, CHRISTINA WELSH PERFORM AT THE ARTS FESTIVAL

### Senior Production 2007 'Macbeth'

Setting about tackling this complex piece was always going to be something of a challenge for the cast of forty senior pupils. Several spent time in the holidays learning lines, demonstrating early dedication, with the main rehearsals beginning at the start of the Autumn term.

Considerable rehearsal time was spent working on the meaning and purpose of each scene, creating an underlying understanding of the text.

All cast members showed a real enthusiasm for the play and worked incredibly hard during rehearsal, resulting in the tremendous performances enjoyed by our audiences.

Both cast and production team were delighted to receive such glowing reviews from audience members. It was also wonderful to see Year 9 from Framlingham College at the dress rehearsal.

It was truly a cast performance of note, but special mention must go to the two leads; Mimi O'Neill, as Macbeth, and Emily Higgins, as Lady Macbeth. Both girls absorbed an incredible amount of text, and delivered their lines with a maturity beyond their years.

The use of ICT to generate the constantly changing images of the set provided a modern day backdrop to this Shakespearian classic.

Mr Parker and Mme Goodin would like to thank all involved behind the scenes, helping to make this such a successful Senior Production.

*Mr C Parker, Director, Head of Drama*

## ...GLOWING REVIEWS FROM AUDIENCE MEMBERS.

### House Senior Drama Challenge 2006-'07

The first House Senior Drama Challenge took place this Autumn term as part of the Arts Festival. Five senior pupils from each House gathered in the Hobbies Room to begin the

Challenge. It was to select one pupil from within each House group, to learn, rehearse, and then perform a monologue, in front of the judging panel, parents, and the school.

All challengers learnt a piece as part of the selection process, and competition within each House group was fierce. Mr Parker and Mme Goodin were extremely impressed with the standard of delivery.

Eventually the finalists were selected. It was to be; Christina Welsh for Constable, Katie Rutherford for Constable, Lewis Myers-Allen for Gainsborough, and Alice Baller for Britten. All four finalists did themselves proud, showing a sample of the drama talent within the school. The judging panel chose Lewis Myers-Allen of Gainsborough as the overall winner for his terrific interpretation of the 'little brother' piece. Congratulations to all who took on the Drama Challenge!

*Mr C Parker, Head of Drama*





## Athletics

The year started with a master class from Great Britain decathlete, Darren Hatton which inspired the U14 Girls to win their first competition at RHS Holbrook. The top athletes went on to exceed their personal targets at the Suffolk AAA County Championships in Bury St Edmunds. Ryan Clarke came first in the shot and second in the javelin. Silver medals were also won at the same level by Emily Wilford in the javelin and Olivia Cowley in the high jump. At U13 level, Susannah Reid came first and set a new school record in the 1500m with a time of 5m32. Lydia Green also came first and broke the school and county record at javelin with a throw of 24.20m. Silver medals were won by Jasmine Lawson in the hurdles, Jack Scott at high jump, Eve Lawson at discus and Jack Pearson at 100m.

The North Suffolk U12 Athletics Championships saw the girls, captained by Jasmine Lawson, win the title for the third time in as many years and the boys, led by Jack Scott, regain their title of 2005.

The Eastern Area Athletics Meeting took place in Birmingham where it poured with rain. At U13 level Lydia Green, Jasmine Lawson and Susannah Reid won the javelin, hurdles and 1500m respectively and Sophie Warner won the U12 javelin.

The Junior Eastern Area Athletics Meeting took place in Norwich. At U10 level Kit Hollingsworth and Toby Warner both came first in the high jump and at U11 level Timothy Brunstein-laPlace came first in the 200m and, together with Max Johns, Barney Horsfield and George Coulson, also led the Boys U11 relay team to victory.

On Sports Day, notable individual performances included Edward Havers 100m and 400m double. William Owen dominated the senior throws and Jack Scott added the Triple Jump trophy, (the Pegg Cup) to his brace of middle distance victories (the Davies and Larter Cups). Katie Rutherford and Eleanor Smith shared the Senior Girls Victor Ludorum title. The Lawson cousins, Jasmine and Charlotte, collected four trophies between them including the 200m, hurdles, long jump and shot. The Boys U11 Victor Ludorum

trophy (the Foulston Cup) went to George Coulson and the junior title went to Susannah Reid. George Goodin was the recipient of the Young Cup and Kit Hollingsworth the Edwards Cup. Gainsborough snatched the Relays Trophy but Britten was not to be denied as their House Captains staggered away with the Standards Cup.

*Mr C Reynell, Director of Sport*



COUNTY ATHLETIC CHAMPIONS

**...BRITTEN WAS  
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MINOR GIRLS, CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONS

## Cross-Country 2006-07

A season of great promise with no fewer than eight pupils selected to represent Suffolk this year at Minor Boys and Girls level. This was more than any other school in the county by 'a cross-country mile'!

The season started well at the North and South Suffolk Cross-Country Championships at Chantry Park in October.

Our Minor Girls (Years 6 and 7) won the County Title for the fifth year running.

The Minor Boys came a very close second. Excellent packing by the girls produced a class performance from Victoria Jenkins in second place, Lydia Green third, Suzie Reid fourth, Katie Wilkinson sixth, Becky O'Leary ninth and Eve Lawson tenth. In the Minor Boys event Jack Scott and Matthew Warren finished ninth and tenth respectively – and in the Junior Girls race Olivia Cowley finished an excellent 19th in an age group that spans both Year 8 and 9.

This impressive form carried through to the Suffolk Schools County Championships.

The 'A' Races (top eighty in the county) were held at RHS, Holbrook. In the Minor Girls Race Brandeston Hall recorded 4 of the top five places with Susannah Reid finishing proudly as County Champion, Lydia Green third, Victoria Jenkins fourth, Jasmine Lawson fifth and Katie Wilkinson twelfth. In the Minor Boys race Jack Scott was seventh, Matthew Warren eleventh and Fergus Cowley twelfth.

The Series 'B' County event (for the top forty in the county) was again hosted at Framlingham College, in January.

In the Minor Girls Race, Brandeston Hall recorded three of the top five places with Susannah Reid again dominating her race to confirm her No.1 status. Lydia Green was 5th and Victoria Jenkins 6th. These girls were, for the second successive year, each selected to represent Suffolk in the Schools East of England Inter-Counties C.C. Championships, again at Holbrook.

Katie Wilkinson and Jasmine Lawson also earned county selection. In the Minor Boys race Jack Scott was sixth, Matthew Warren twelfth and Fergus Cowley fourteenth to also earn their county vest.

*Mr C Reynell, Director of Sport*



## Golf



The 9 hole golf course has been well-used this year and remained in magnificent condition, but the number of schools prepared to take us on at competition level were few. Probably they knew that Brandeston had a strong team. However, Old Buckingham Hall rose to the challenge and later wished they hadn't. On 20th May a team of six Year 7 boys 'teed up' on the Brandeston course. The captain, Tom Berry, led by example with a super opening drive down the fairway. As the sun shone, the home teams moved ahead in all three matches, eventually winning 2 1/2-1/2. It was a most enjoyable event, with all competitors conducting themselves wonderfully throughout the morning.

## Parent Pupil Invitation Golf Morning



On the morning of Sunday 24th June, ten pairs of golfers took to the Brandeston fairways, braving inclement weather. The matches were all played in terrific spirit, and with the natural competitive edge of any golf duel. As ever, the course was in immaculate condition, and I must convey the thanks of the parents, as well as my own, to Mr Mike Rutterford and Tiger and Ray Pike for producing a terrific playing surface amid such mixed weather. Each group played a most enjoyable round, but ultimately there can be only one overall

winner. Congratulations go to Lloyd and Tom Berry, who retain the trophy. My thanks to all competitors for supporting this tremendous competition.

*Mr C Parker, i/c Golf*

## Rounders

**1st IX:** Bad weather decimated the fixtures list this year. However four out of the five games were won. The team were very adept at fielding. Twenty-nine catches were taken throughout the season and the opposition never batted for long. The cup for most valuable player was awarded to Emily Wilford for excellent deep fielding including three catches and for scoring twelve rounders.

**2nd IX:** The 2nd team also enjoyed a good season and won three out of their five matches. The team demonstrated that they were capable at batting – Lydia Green and Jasmine Lawson have scored almost half of the team's total between them and Brandeston's domination in this area allowed them to snatch easy victories.

**3rd IX:** All girls have had a chance to play for the team and have enjoyed the experience. All have improved and worked hard at their skills, but successes were difficult to achieve.

**U11A:** The team displayed some excellent skills and carefully crafted tactics out on the pitch. This resulted in them winning three out of their four matches. The B and C teams had mixed results but displayed commitment and their skills developed as the season progressed.

**U9s:** The younger girls finished on a high. Confidence improved throughout the season and teams were undefeated during the second half.

*Mrs S Thompson*

## Tennis

This term no fewer than sixteen teams were entered into the various age groups of the Suffolk Schools Tennis Team Competitions. Pride of place this year went to the Year 3 boy's team of William

Simpson, Jolyon Summers, William Donsworth and Charlie Kilham who were all outstanding in lifting the County title after a close 4-2 victory over Barnadiston Hall in the final. The most remarkable thing about this feat was that all four boys are currently in Year 2!

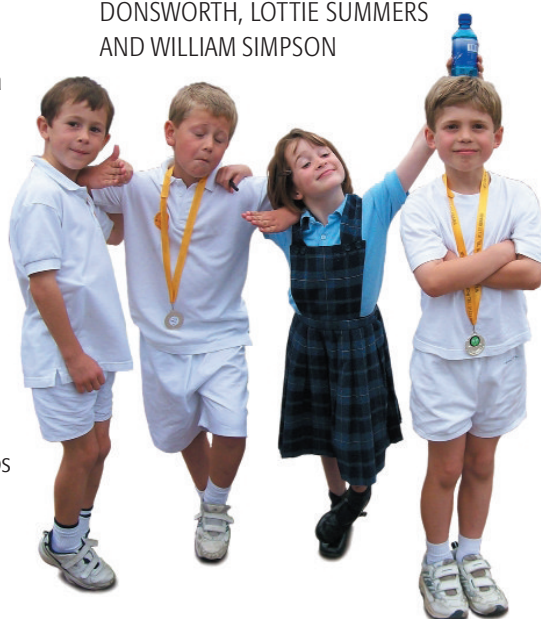
The other outstanding team of the season was the U11 A girl's team. At the Framlingham College U11 Tennis Festival for girls the team of Lucy Ashby-Hoare, Sophie Lawson, Katherine Ridley and Amanda Birch played very well all day to win their first four matches setting up a showdown with Amberfield in their final match, who had also won four out of four. But Brandeston left their best tennis until last by winning all four singles and two doubles to win 6-0 and deservedly take the title. They also went on to convincingly beat the County U11 Schools title, thrashing Amberfield 6-0 in the semi-finals and The Abbey by the same score line in the finals.

Other teams of note in the County finals were the U8 and U11 mixed teams who both finished runners up. The U11B girls came 3rd and the U13A boys finished 4th.

We are very proud to report that Lydia Green (U12), Lucy Ashby-Hoare (U11), Sophie Lawson (U10), Florence McCausland and Millie Overly-Owen( both U8) were all selected to represent Suffolk at tennis in regional team competitions during 2007.

*Mr Trevor Wright*

BELOW: JOLYON SUMMERS, WILLIAM DONSWORTH, LOTTIE SUMMERS AND WILLIAM SIMPSON





## Cricket

2007 was not a vintage year for Brandeston cricket, although all teams played with great enthusiasm.

Alex Saunders lead a young, but unsuccessful 1st XI who gained valuable experience throughout the season. There were some highlights and the team also boasted our quickest bowler for a number of years in Edward Havers. The Colts A featured the very talented Thomas Ridley, who scored two majestic 50s.

However, while the top teams battled, the 2nds, 3rds, 4ths, 5ths and Colts Bs all recorded very good seasons, winning the vast majority of their matches and performing with great credit.

The Under 9s, who clearly benefited from the introduction of the Saturday Morning Cricket School, showed great promise and Charles Lewis, Tom Easey and Toby Warner should undoubtedly be names for the future.

Once more we enjoyed the magic of a trip to Lords and had the honour of meeting West Indian fast bowling legend Courtenay Walsh. *Pictured below* James Finney, James Trembath and Stephen Packer

With continued hard work, I am sure next year will be one of great promise.

*Mr C Reynell*



## Netball

This has been an extremely busy and very successful term for our U11, U12 and U13 netball teams that have remained unbeaten in a total 21 games against schools from all

over Suffolk, Norfolk and Essex. The Under 12s and 13s all recorded unbeaten seasons last year too!

The U13 team won the highly competitive Felsted Tournament, the U12s qualified as winners in the IAPS Regional Tournaments and played at the National Championships at Brighton where they came a most creditable 9th out of sixteen teams. The U11s came a very creditable sixth out of 21 teams in their equivalent tournament.

The U9 girls enjoyed their season of netball in the Autumn Term. Their skills improved greatly and everyone represented the school in either the U9A or the U9B team.

*Miss S Thomson, Head of Netball*

BELOW, FROM TOP: THE U11, U12 AND U13 TEAMS



## Rugby

In many ways it has been an exciting year, particularly for the boys in the 1st XV. After Christmas they participated in the International sevens competition at Brandeston, and won. Sides from Romania, Ukraine and Bulgaria were participants. They also went to Rosslyn Park... quite an experience for a young side! The regular season was a little frustrating for the 1st XV; too many close games were narrowly lost. The 2nd and 3rd XVs had encouraging seasons and so the future is bright. The 1st and Colts went to Leicester on tour, enjoying 2 tough games each and a raw East Midlands derby as the Tigers pipped the Saints... again! The academy runs again in August ready for the new season. Four players were selected for the Eastern Counties Training Squad: Matthew Warren, Jack Scott, Will Owen, and Jack Pearson. Ryan Clark was selected for Northampton Saints Under 14 Academy.

## Brandeston Hall International Sevens Tournament

Thirty 12 year-olds from Eastern Europe experienced a trip of a life time when they came to Brandeston Hall in March to play rugby and to be coached by Premiership players from London Irish and Harlequins courtesy of the charity, Touraid. The children came from rugby clubs in the Ukraine, Bulgaria and Romania.

The first team to arrive were the Bulgarians. The boys and coaches were greeted by Mr Woolnough and immediately taken to watch the 3rd XI Hockey battling it out against Taverham Hall. The boys from the Ukraine arrived accompanied by the Ukrainian Internationals Yevken and Vasselin. At 10.30pm the boys from Bulgaria arrived. With one two nervous glances and a little faltering English the boys left to spend their first of two nights with their host families.

The tourists visited the Suffolk coast the following morning and were treated to a historical tour of Aldeburgh. On their return a special mixed international soccer match was enjoyed and at the end the boys



trooped off the pitch muddled and weary, arms on one another's shoulders deep in conversation. The next day, the guests attended a special assembly and the school orchestra performed an original version of an eastern European folk song, which was much appreciated by all. The boys had an introduction to the game of cricket with Suffolk Cricket Coach, Peter Bennett-King.

## ...BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP THAT HAD DEVELOPED THROUGHOUT THE WEEK TIGHTENED EVEN MORE.

The boys were then treated to coaching from Nick Hyde and James Ogilvy-Ball from the Harlequins and London Irish clubs. In the afternoon they were joined by the Brandeston Hall 7s team and continued to train and practice hard. After rugby, the tourists were driven to Framlingham College where they enjoyed a swim and a play in the swimming pool.

At the weekend, the tourists were joined by Brandeston and Diss Rugby Football Club for the Brandeston Hall International Sevens Tournament. The subsequent games demonstrated the skill and passion of all the teams involved. Several close matches ensued and the tournament was finally won by the host school whose defeat of the Romanian team by 2 points proved crucial. Following the Tournament the Master, Nigel Woolnough, made a speech of thanks to the many people who have supported this venture and presented trophies and medals to all of the boys who played. The Player of the Tournament was awarded to Andrei Bucurescu of Romania. After a quick lunch, the boys were bussed off to watch Ipswich Town lose 2-0 to Southend at Portman Road. A memorable farewell meal was enjoyed later in the evening and the bonds of friendship that had developed throughout the week tightened even more.

*Mr C Reynell*



As another year draws to a close and I look back over the year, I am again staggered at the amount the boarders pack into their already busy lives.

The year started with a change to the evening timetable. By moving tea a little later, we were able to create a more worthwhile time for evening activities.

Sunday activities have also been a great success and provided great variety. From gigantic art work on the front lawn to adrenaline packed go-karting, there has been something for everyone.

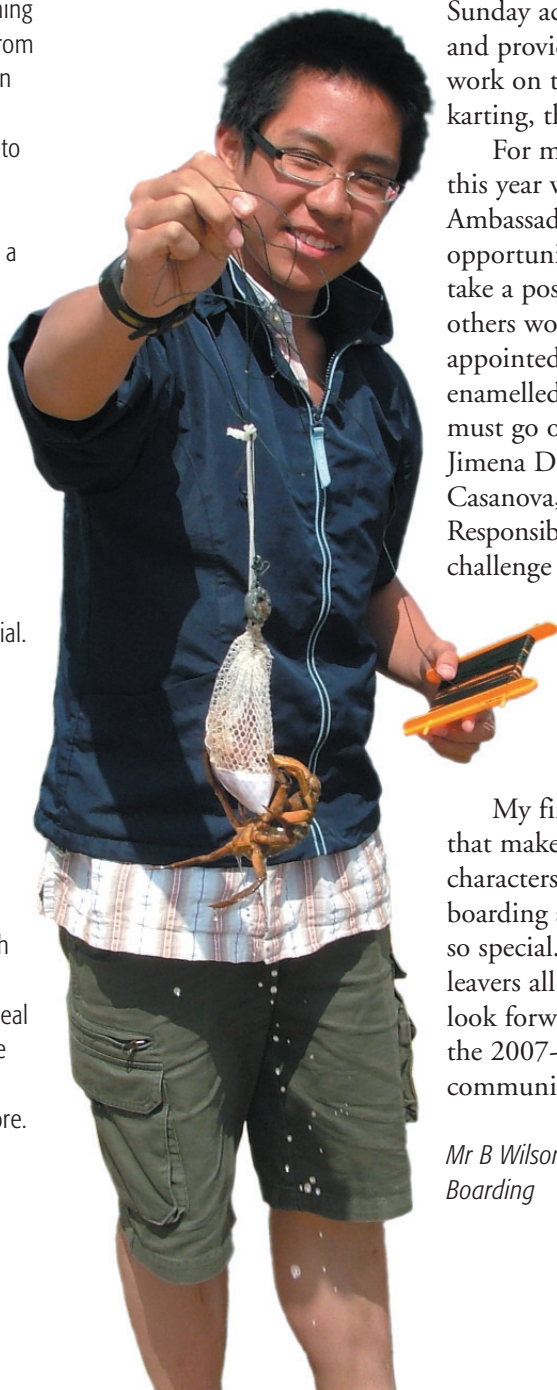
For me, one of the most important events for this year was the creation of Boarding Ambassadors. We felt there needed to be an opportunity within boarding for the students to take a position of responsibility, that in time others would aspire to achieve. To that end, we appointed seven boarders to wear the new enamelled badge. My congratulation and thanks must go out to Ellie Smith, Pollyanna Johns, Jimena Deiz Liebana, Karra Shekiluwa, Danny Casanova, Peter Chan and Alvaro de Santiago. Responsibility at this age is often a difficult challenge to bear; this year's ambassadors have set a standard for future incumbents.

Thanks must also go to the boarding staff, without their dedication we would not be able to achieve a fraction of what we now regard as boarding life.

My final thanks must go to the individuals that make up the boarding community. It is their characters, enthusiasm and adventures that make boarding at Brandeston so special. I wish our leavers all the best and look forward to what the 2007-8 boarding community brings.

*Mr B Wilson, Head of Boarding*

ABOVE LEFT:  
RED CARPET TREATMENT  
FOR OSCAR NIGHT.  
ABOVE RIGHT: GIGANTIC  
ART WORK ON THE  
FRONT LAWN.  
LEFT: CRABBING AT  
WALBERSWICK





### Trip to Skern Lodge 2007

A momentous trip in that Mr Sampson Snr did not travel with us but sent his son Tom instead, as he was helping out as a gap student. He was joined by Courtney Mullen another gap student, Mr Cullum, Mr Wilson, Mrs Norton and 48 Year Eights.

The weather was somewhat showery but fun and excitement was enjoyed by all during the bivi at Hartland, kayaking, high ropes etc.

*Mrs Jan Norton, Trip Leader*

### Year 4 Residential Trip to Castleton

On March 25th, the majority of Year 4 set off for Castleton, accompanied by Miss Tye, Mr Cullum, Mrs Parker and trip organiser, Mr Parker. We stayed at the excellent Youth Hostel and were looked after very well by the staff there.

On our first full day, we walked up, then down Mam Tor, explored Treak Cliff Cavern, and then climbed up to Peveril Castle. During our stay we still had time, to design, build, and then test rockets; and to investigate the town and Tourist Information Centre. At the hostel we panned for gems and made fossil casts, as we learnt about the local rocks. We also tried archery, which was terrific!

A favourite visit was to Cavedale, a steep sided valley; ideal for a picnic and some exciting clambering opportunities! In all, it was an excellent trip: great activities, enthusiastic children, and super weather.

*Mr C Parker, Trip Leader*

### Year 4 trip to Kingswood September 2006

On Wednesday 6th September, accompanied by Mrs Webster, Mr Parker and Mrs Hamilton, the children in Year 4 departed for 'Kingswood' on the North Norfolk coast.

Over the course of three very busy days, the children all used ICT to create a short animated film. This involved using a digital camera, electronically composing music, and designing backgrounds for their action sequences.

While not using the ICT suites we abseiled, climbed, quad biked, go carted and took part in team games.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the range of stimulating activity on offer, and it proved an excellent way for the Year group

to gel together at the start of the new school year, particularly for those new to Brandeston Hall.

Many thanks to Mrs Webster for making all the arrangements.

*Mr C Parker, Trip Leader*



LEFT: WALKING UP MAM TOR, CASTLETON TRIP. TOP: THE KINGSWOOD GROUP AND ABOVE, THREE QUAD BIKE RACERS



### Modern Languages

This year as always, we have taken languages out of the classroom.

In October Years 7 and 8 took part in our fourth visit to the Château de la Baudonnière, in Normandy. There pupils experienced a range of activities including archery, fencing, wall climbing, bread making, orienteering, photography and circus skills, and a day trip to the Mont Saint Michel – to name just a few. The all-





### Trip to Kentwell Hall

At the end of June 2007, Year 6 pupils were transported back to the febrile days of the 1580s when plots and schemes were afoot to replace Elizabeth with the true Queen of England, Mary of Scotland. It was, to say the least, a wet and wild day at the Hall and everyone was relieved to spend as long as possible in the kitchen within range of the ranges. A Volta was performed and reprised in the Dining Room and it provided entertainment on a damp Summer's day. The inclement conditions could not dampen the enthusiasm of the pupils and their understanding of a distant age was considerably enhanced.

*Mr J Clough,  
Head of  
History*

ABOVE  
AND RIGHT:  
BACK TO  
THE 1580s



TOP: MODERN LANGUAGES, MODERN APPROACH – ASSAULT COURSE IN FRANCE, AND ABOVE, LATINO DAY.

time favourite was once again the very muddy assault course! Our junior pupils also manned fresh croissant stalls, on open mornings – in perfect French. The same can be said of our French Café des Faisans, at the Year 8 charity fête. To finish the year we ran our very own Latino Day, with tasters of samba rhythms, dancing and Spanish language, and an exclusive themed lunch of paella and churros.

*Mme C Gassmann, Head of Languages*



On the evening of Friday 27th of April, Brandeston Hall was shaken by the loud thud of music as the pupils danced the night away at the annual charity disco organised by Year 7 pupils. The charity to benefit this year was SuLSaR – Suffolk Lowland Search and Rescue. Staff and pupils were delighted to hand over a cheque for £670, raised from the event.

A number of other small charity projects have been supported this year including four cake stalls run by 4BH to raise £350 for a school in Kenya, sponsored bulb planting for Myasthenia Gravis which raised £419, and own clothes days for a variety of other causes.

Years 3-7 raised £1,459 for Mencap with their Spellathon during the Summer Term.

Our major focus has once again been the Rogbonko Village School and we raised over £1,000 during the October half term with a variety of ingenious ideas to make a pound multiply. The culmination of our fundraising came with the Year 8 Fête, on the afternoon of the last Tuesday of the Summer Term. A variety of stalls including the old favourites and big money spinners such as the raffle and tombola, combined with new ideas including paint-balling, guess the weight of Ellie, Miss Thomson's golden retriever and many others allowed us to make £1,560 and to have the most enormous amount of fun.

*Miss S Thompson*

BELOW: £670 RAISED FOR VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION SuLSaR – SUFFOLK LOWLAND SEARCH AND RESCUE

