## The Bredonian



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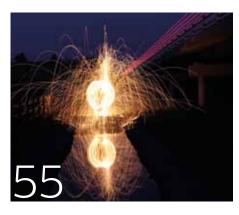
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## Welcome to this edition of 'school life in print'.

In a global education framework, which is becoming increasingly more prescriptive and reliant on marking success by exam results alone, it is refreshing to read of 'a year in the life at Bredon', reflecting a 'no boundaries' approach to offering opportunities to meet the needs of our pupils.

In the last year, there has been significant change; we have even more experienced members of staff at the school, and we have improved facilities to create an environment in which to deliver new and exciting experiences, both inside and importantly, outside the classroom.

We have new owners also. The involvement of Cavendish Education, with their experience and passion to deliver a quality mark of education, is refreshing. Pull Court is an inspirational setting within a rural farm, forest and parkland environment, and with more significant investment to come. we will enhance our broad creative Arts and practical curriculum, as well as the boarding areas to help promote independence and prepare our students for later life

Bredon School allows every child to 'come alive and thrive' and to find themselves and their place within a community and the world around them.

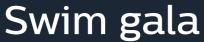
My thanks to those who have contributed to this edition, especially the photographers, Rachel Bridgen and students Alex Blake and Max Willson. Enjoy reading and exploring what Bredon is about.

**David AT Ward MA** 

DAMM.







The weather just about held as the students took to the pool for the annual end of term inter-house swim gala. There were some great individual performances as well as team work on show, and for some, it was an opportunity to practise their newly acquired skills.

## Bredon's Got Talent

Magicians, singers, dancers, musicians and comedians were the order of the day for the Bredon's Got Talent competition!

Judged by Mr Jeffery and his impersonator Henry Darrall, as well as Mr Abraham and outgoing Head Girl Megan Bates, the afternoon was filled with laughter and applause as the students entertained us with their unique skills and talents.

## New junior school opening

The new Junior School officially opened on the final day of term, 2014 with a ribbon cutting ceremony performed by Junior pupils and watched by invited parents and staff members.

Since then, the Juniors have really settled in, adding new classrooms and outdoor play spaces as their numbers have grown.

Always willing to get 'hands-on' the juniors have even played a part in the construction of their new play equipment, and have been busy in gardening club making the approach paths pretty with flowers.

New for spring 2015 - additional classroom space





## Founder's day July 2014

Students, staff, parents, grandparents, siblings and friends packed into the marquee at the side of historic Pull Court, to hear a welcome address from Mr Ward.

Reflecting on the numerous developments at the school over the last 12 months and focusing on the achievements of so many, Mr Ward thanked staff and students for all their efforts and congratulated the student body on their successes this year.

As outgoing Head students, Luke Freeman and Megan Bates, made their farewell speeches, there wasn't a dry eye in the house as the two reflected on their journey at Bredon School. They thanked their teachers and friends for their support and help, and both acknowledged the important role that family had played in their success.

Just before the formal prize giving and award of certificates, trophies and school cups, guest speaker Estelle Morris, Baroness

Morris of Yardley took to the stage. Baroness Morris is the former education secretary and current Chair of the Executive Group of the Institute for Effective Education at the University of York.

She spoke with warmth about her morning at Bredon; remarking on the positive attitude and acknowledging that many students have overcome enormous personal barriers to enable them to achieve.

### Awards List

#### Pre-School Years 1-6

Young Explorers

Henry Surman (Pre-School)

English

Nelleke Loader

Reading

Alexander Kirby

Mathematics Spanish

Luke Warrington

Science

Young Performer - Vocals

Max Drurv

Special Learning Award Forest School Award

Charlie Wilkin

Music

Daniel Lewis

Westlake Cup for Endeavour

Libby Bowness

Lucy Bliss Trophy for Perseverence

Matthew Cooley

The W John Trophy for Diligence Cecelia J John Cup for Initiative

Jason Au

The Happy Cup

Ryan Staudt

Junior Farm Cup Martin Black Shield for Adventure Training

Oscar Priestley

Young Performer - Acting

Luca Blanchfield

All Round Behaviour

Annabelle Young

Junior Sportsperson of the Year Junior Award for Service to School

George Smith

The Crosby Trophy for Junior Swimming

Leo Rowe

#### Years 7 - 9

English

Elizabeth Prize for Most Improved Art

Sarah Freeman

Mathematics
David Hird

Science – Biology

The Wanamaker Trophy – Junior Hockey Player

Elizabeth Morris

Science – Chemistry

The Millward Cup – Cross Country

The Ott Trophy – Rugby Player of the Year

Science – Physics

**Edward Clews** 

Daniel Page

**Technology - Resistant Materials - Metal** Callum Trott

Technology - Resistant Materials - Wood

William Checkley

**Technology – Food** Connor O'Neill

Technology - Textiles

Anna McIntyre

Art

Lauren Hayward

History

The Oxford Gun Company Trophy for Most Improved Shooter

Samuel Morton

Geography

Special Learning Improvement Award

Timothy Metcalf

Spanish

Maximilian Doughty

Information Technology

Madeline Bue

**Religious Studies** 

Ellie McCormick

Music

Jude Morris

Drama

William Eamer

Physical Education The Raymond Trophy – Athlete of the Year

am Woolliams

The Edwards Trophy – Cricketer of the Year

Oliver Honer

**Junior Tennis** 

Sophie Rees

The Paddock Shield – Farmer of the Year

Callum Brown

Young Countryman Award

David Evans

**Pastoral** 

Significant Contribution to Boarding Life

Community Service to Boarding – Stable House

Freddie Law

redule Law

Community Service to Boarding - Tyndale Alfie Fallon

Community Service to Boarding - Dowdeswell

George Botsford

Community Service to Boarding - Millicent Alexandra Goucher

"The prize giving was an excellent opportunity both to recognise the success of individual pupils and to reflect on the achievements of the school. I was struck by the confidence of the students and their ambition for their futures.

"Bredon School clearly supports its students very effectively and the occasion was also recognition of the hard work and skill of the teaching and support staff".

Baroness Morris





#### Years 10 - 13

English

Contribution to the Performing Arts
Tayte Nickols

Poetry and Literature Physical Education (girl) Sportswoman of the Year The Thompson Trophy – Senior Hockey Player Alice Stevens

Elizabeth Jay Prize for English Endeavour Annie Dobbs

Drama Media Studies - GCSE Modern Languages Jamie Drinkwater

Media Studies – 6th Form History A/S Jacob Hall

Artist of the Year (Seahorse) Geography Business Studies OCR Level 3

History

Ayman Morrar

Science – Chemistry George Sayers

Science – Biology Zak Hamerslev

Science – Physics Simon Gallagher

Science – A Level Mathematics A Level James Morris

Rural Science - ELBS Mathematics GCSE Thomas Forrester

OCR Information Technology The Gomery Trophy - OCR Level 3 Business Annabelle Trigg

Art

Harriet Millorit-Paull

**A Level Art** Alasdair Dron

Music Performance

Saad Khawaja

Design & Technology – Engineering The Dr House Cup – Athletic Endeavour Jonathan Jones

**Design & Technology – Food** Katrina Fry

**Design & Technology – Resistant Materials** Joshua Pettigrew Physical Education (boy)

Clarence Monk

Most Improved Canoeist Swimming Endeavour Alastair Messore

Religious Education Emma Toozs-Hobson

OCR level 2 Business

MIA LICITIS

OCR Sport Level 3 Thomas Phillips

OCR Level 2 Health and Social Care Equine Studies

Rebecca Cripps

Engineering Y12/13

Derek Green

Hospitality & Catering
The Ruff Team Trophy for Leadership
Megan Bates

**Learning Support**Kellan Lawes

The Webb Happy Cup
Thomas Bowers

ASDAN (COPE) Alexander Curtis

Travel and Tourism

Jack King

CISCO Academy – GCSE Lucas Kennedy

CISCO Academy – 6th Form Robert D'Mello

The Fielding Cup - Cricket Bertie Leschallas

The Houldsworth Cup -Sportsman of the Year William Clarke

The Lewis-Williams Phillips Cup -All Round Effort

William Clarke

The Abbott Trophy -All Round Contribution to Sport Maia Hawkins

**Boys Basketball Player of the Year** Damaso Garbayo

Swimmer of the Year (the Harris Twig) William Clarke

The McCarthy Trophy -All Round Racket Player

#### Duke of Edinburgh Awards

Bronze

Henry Darrall Simon Gallagher Millie Hems Oliver Mitchell Michael Robbins

Silver

John Brown Katrina Fry Jonathan Jones Tom Manning Stephen McIntyre Clarence Monk George Sayers

The Corner Shield - Stockman of the Year Jack Ramsav

Young Farmer's Cup Andrew Smith

Gardener of the Year The Lupton Trophy for All Round Behaviour Daniel Brookes

The Mathew Cup for Initiative Luke Freeman

The Sugar Bowl -Entrepreneur of the Year Katya Roures Salvador

Clay Pigeon Shooting (Best Gun)

The Wilson Challenge Shield for Horticulture Sally-Ann Duxbury

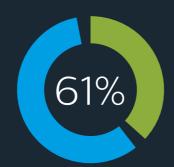
Talbot Trophy for Endeavour
Danielle Tipton

The Odyomo Cup for Effort Hannah Spillsbury



### **Exam Results**

As the morning of August 14th dawned, there were undoubtedly a few nerves for our students receiving their A Level and Level 3 results. However, they needn't have worried; they achieved some fantastic results with more students than ever before picking up top grades.



The overall pass rate was 100%, with 61% of students gaining an A\*- B grade.

#### There were some outstanding individual performances:

- Tom Phillips (A\*) & (A) OCR Sport; (B) Travel & Tourism; (C) History.
- Annabelle Trigg (A\*) ICT; (A\*) Business.
- · Jacob Hall (A\*) Art; (A) ICT; (B) Media; (D) History.
- · Will Clarke (A) & (A) Business.
- · Tom Hayward (A) & (A) Business; (C) Law.
- Derek Green (A\*) Engineering.
- · Alasdair Dron (B) & (B) Art.

In an interview with BBC Herefordshire & Worcestershire Radio later that day, James Morris, who received (A) Maths; (B) Physics; (C) History, praised teachers for their support and revealed that he had been accepted to his first choice university, Loughborough.

Mr Ward said, "This is a very impressive set of results and I am thrilled that so many of our students have done so well. I would like to congratulate each and every one of them and also pay tribute to the hard work and commitment of the teaching staff who work tirelessly to help our students achieve the best results they can."

There were particular stand out performances in OCR Sport, with 100% of students achieving A\*- B grades and in ICT, 100% of students receiving their AS qualifications secured A\*-B grades also.

A week later, it was the GCSE and vocational level 2 results and for students taking GCSEs, 46.6% achieved grades A\*-C.

Mr Ward said, "This is a pleasing set of results with many of our students exceeding their predicted grades within the new examination system".

There was much success in the vocational-based qualifications; the pass rate in BTEC (Levels 1 & 2) Countryside & Environment and in Engineering was 100%, with many students achieving distinctions.

In the OCR National qualifications for ICT and Business, again Bredon students achieved a fantastic 100% pass rate.

Mr Ward concluded, "Bredon's long history of supporting children of all abilities is evident through the proven success with the vocational qualifications, and we will continue to adapt our curriculum in the future to enable as many children to achieve their potential here at Bredon".





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is outstanding
in its provision,
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and those without
specific barriers
to learning."

### More **success** for Bredon

Following a visit from the Council for the Registration of Schools Teaching Dyslexic Pupils (CReSTeD) in November, Bredon was awarded an upgrade to 'Dyslexia Specialist Provision' status; an accolade which recognises its outstanding provision for children with dyslexia.

The author of the report said, "Bredon School is outstanding in its provision, understanding and support for all its students - those with and those without specific barriers to learning.

"It is a happy school where students are able to develop personal skills and feel safe and comfortable as well as growing academically".

Deputy Head (SEN) Mrs Deborah Jones, said "CReSTeD is a well-respected organisation, and this reclassification is great news.

"Bredon is such a fantastic place to learn – the wide-ranging curriculum and array of extra-curricular activities allow every pupil to find their specific area in which to shine."

## Pupil News

#### Max Willson

Max was on holiday in France with his mother and sister Mini, last summer, when Mini accidentally put her arm through a pane of glass.

On hearing his sister cry out, Max rushed to see what had happened and found his nine year old sister with blood gushing from her wrist. Realising instantly that Mini was badly injured; he knew he had to act fast. His first instinct was to stem the bleeding so he grabbed a towel and applied pressure to the wound.

Unable to find a first aid kit in the house, Max decided to improvise and, using Duct tape, a placemat and fresh towels, he dressed the wound and contacted the emergency services.

Mini severed the artery and three tendons in her arm, but will make a full recovery. If it hadn't been for Max's quick reactions, and remembering the basic training he had received through the Combined Cadet Force at School, then it could have been a very different story.

Max was nominated for a bravery award through the CCF, and collected an award from St James Palace in April. Max was further nominated for the St Johns Ambulance Everyday Heroes competition

and appeared in the Mail on Sunday on June - the public will choose their ultimate winner.

#### John Brown

John Brown has been chosen as one of the top 3 performing rookies at the Kings Camp Foundation.

Kings Camp is a charitable organisation, offering childcare and sports and activities camps for children from 4 years old.

John has been helping out at Kings Camp in the school holidays and last summer was nominated by the centre manager as 'one of his top performing rookies'.

Rookies shadow the centre manager, assist in sessions, deliver games, lead chants and games with the rest of the camp, and get a taste of life as a 'real' member of Kings camps staff team. Well done John.

#### **Beth Avery**

Max with his sister Mini

In October, Beth made a Tandem Skydive in support of Acorns Children's Hospice.

She jumped from 13,000 feet and raised £550 - making her one of the youngest fundraising skydivers in the country. Fantastic news, Beth.





#### **ICT**

#### **CISCO**

The following students have gained the Cisco IT Essentials Industry Certification; Daniel Halblaub, Alex Blake, Baruch Heijmans Bulder, Jay Toman and Ayman Morrar.

Alex has excelled in gaining an average pass mark of 87% for both his theory and practical final exams.

In addition, two of the Year 11 Cisco students – Lucas Kennedy and Gordon Fautz – have gained the 'OCR ProCom Certificate for IT Professionals' qualification.

Congratulations to you all.

## New Computers for the ICT Suites

15 new computers have been installed in the ICT Suites incorporating the very latest technology to enhance our computing curriculm.

#### Juniors get to grips with programming

The Juniors had the chance to get hands-on with 'Beebots' in October, helping them to understand the basics of computer programming.

Beebots are fun creatures who follow a series of commands and sequences, in order to complete a route or a journey.

The Beebots help to reinforce the concept that computers cannot operate on common sense, and need accurate and well-planned instructions in order to perform effectively





## Dyslexia awareness week

In November, Bredon once again embraced National Dyslexia Awareness Week by putting on a whole range of join-in activities and events for students.

The week aims to raise awareness of dyslexia, and at Bredon it is an opportunity to celebrate and display the unique talents of our dyslexic students.

There was arts and crafts activities, poster making, magic classes, demonstrations of the latest assistive technologies, and even lunchtime sessions of Zumba!

Mrs Jones explains, "We chose Zumba as part of the awareness week because, as teachers, we often expect our pupils to work outside of their comfort zones and do things that they have never done before, which can be quite scary and intimidating.

"The lunchtime Zumba was about putting staff out of their comfort zones doing something new and scary, and understanding what it feels like to learn something new! It's also great exercise of course, keeping students' minds and bodies active and helping with coordination".



Students pictured with their keyrings, created during the arts and crafts activities.





## Science

Our Year 7s visited the Cheltenham Science Festival in June, where they had a great time experimenting within the various stands and exhibits.

Here they are pictured using a hairdryer to make laminated materials for the Mars Lander workshop.

The Junior students found the body of a dead bat on the school field and passed it to the Science Department. Still in perfect condition, the department will now preserve the body in formaldehyde to enable students to get up close to this fascinating creature.



### Drama

The Year 8s created their own improvised group play, set in a hairdressers where there had been a murder! They all worked fantastically well as a team and came up with a really convincing and interesting twist in relation to revealing who the murderer was.

The idea for the theme was theirs, and they created their own characters too. Some of the group even gave up parts of their lunch break to help make scenery and come in for extra rehearsals.

Next academic year, the department and students will be directing and producing a KS3 pantomime – to involve staff too – it should be great fund

## Commemorating the Great War – exhibition

A joint project between Bredon and the Tewkesbury Historical Society resulted in an exhibition at the Tewkesbury Heritage Centre, to commemorate the Great War and the impact it had on families from Tewkesbury.

On show between February and April, the exhibition contained research, photographs, artwork, poems and sculptures from Year 9 at Bredon School.

On the opening night of the exhibition, officials, historians, Bredon School staff and pupils, parents and local villagers gathered to hear how the exhibition came about.

John Dixon, from Tewkesbury Historical Society wanted a permanent note of all those people from Tewkesbury who lost their lives in the Great War. He wanted to find out who they were, where and how they died and why they were involved in the war.

As John started the project to remember the men and solo woman from Tewkesbury, he wanted to get a local school involved in the partnership. He found Bredon and as John remarked, "Bredon puts a smile on your face".

During the course of the research project, John taught at the school for 9 weeks alongside Mrs Jakeman. He thanked Mrs Jakeman for all her help and enthusiasm, including a rather creative poppy montage in the shape of the Bredon School seahorse.

Mrs Jakeman said that the biggest pleasure of the project had been to see our students working with their parents, grandparents and in some cases, great grandparents, to understand what had happened in the war.

Pupils Lizzie Smith, Andrew Smith and Lizzie Morris were on hand to discuss the project and Lizzie Morris had even found some of her grandfather's medals.











## Woodworking

#### by Mrs Simpson

Friends At Bredon have funded a sublimation printer which gives high quality images in a range of stunning colours. We have started to design and print personalised mugs and are now starting T-shirts in order for the pupils to learn about user-centred design, business skills and larger scale production.

We hope to sell products for fundraising purposes, and should be able to use the printer to personalise phone cases, bags, mats and even onto wood and metal.

We have also just completed the first run of a GCSE Design Technology Resistant Materials course, after a break of a few years.



## Catering by Mrs Benjamin

It's been a busy year in Catering, with the Year 11 GCSE Catering group having all passed their Food Hygiene certificate with a mark of 100% - achieving a distinction.

The GCSE students have completed two, three hour practical exams, and we have cooked and served a three course meal for the sixth form dinner!

The Juniors have enjoyed their chance to do some cooking on a Wednesday afternoon and have cooked up lots of lovely dishes too.

## Farm update

#### by Mr Tweddell and Miss Parkes

We attended the Royal Three Counties Show in June, showing a number of our sheep. Our Scottish Blackface Ram, shown by Sam Willies, was 6th place in the Shearling Ram class, Any Other Native Breed Sheep section, and our Badgerface Welsh Mountain shearling ewes were in an exceptionally strong class of 26 entries, but were a credit to Lucy Robinson who trained, prepared and showed them, along with Dan Brookes and Jamie O'Riordan.



Our students again took part in the Grand Parade, carrying the name boards ahead of each breed that was parading.



Work has started to renovate the pig pens, as part of a new short-to-medium term plan to invest in upgrades to the Farm buildings and facilities.



The Farm has acquired a replacement tractor, and some new livestock, including Cilla, a saddleback pig who is the mother of the current saddleback pigs already resident at School.

Academically, the Farm has enjoyed success in Level 3
Animal Management and Level 2 Countryside and Environment, with many students going on to further education in Land-Based Studies. The curriculum has changed slightly and we will be offering Level 2 and 3
Agriculture going forwards, which is a more focused subject pathway.





## Overnight outdoor education visits

All Year 7, 8 and 9 students are benefitting from a series of overnight outdoor education visits under the leadership of Miss Swait.

Each group made one trip in the Autumn term – stopping briefly to allow the very cold weather in January and February to pass – and then started up again after the February half term.



The groups leave School on a Thursday lunchtime, staying overnight and returning at the end of the day on Friday.

Year 7 have been to Malvern Outdoor Elements; staying in a chalet and undertaking team and individual challenges such as orienteering, problem solving, night walks and low ropes courses.



They also visited Cranham Scout Centre where they tried a team rope bridge challenge, tree climbing, den building and bush craft.



**Year 8** have been to the Top Barn Activty Centre at Holt Heath, again undertaking orienteering challenges, problem solving and night walks, plus sailing.

They have also been to Viney Hill Christian Centre where they tried a memory maze, bridge building and crate stacking.





**Year 9** have been to Aztec Adventure at Upton Warren. This group have been building towards their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh requirements, participating in orienteering, camp cooking skills, and a high ropes course.

They have also visited Cranham scout centre, where the woods have sprung back to life after the winter. And it's the same for our pupils – after spending time soaking up the peace and beauty, and enjoying bluebells and sunshine, they return to school tired but enthused having tried their hands at archery and bush craft, developing life skills and great memories!











# Several new clubs have started this year as part of the afternoon activity sessions.



Table tennis and fencing are proving popular, as is quad flying.

In quad flying, students learn the basics of flying quadcopters both indoors and outside in the grounds. The enthusiasm and the excitement of the students is palpable each week, and the offshoot of the activity is that some of them have now invested in their own quads. It is hoped that as the club expands perhaps more flying sessions will take place at times such as weekends, when the boarders may take up the challenge of running their own events.

As well as the new clubs, the ever-popular shooting, art, canoeing, cycling, cookery, magic, sports, pony care and crafts clubs are still running, as is allotment club, board games, climbing, film appraisal and minecraft. Busy, busy!

## Combined Cadet Force

#### report by Mr Lister

Our CCF contingent has grown again this year and now has its own dedicated slot on the timetable.

Our Cadets have taken part in the Remembrance Parade, and the May Day Fair, helping to raise awareness of the Armed Forces.

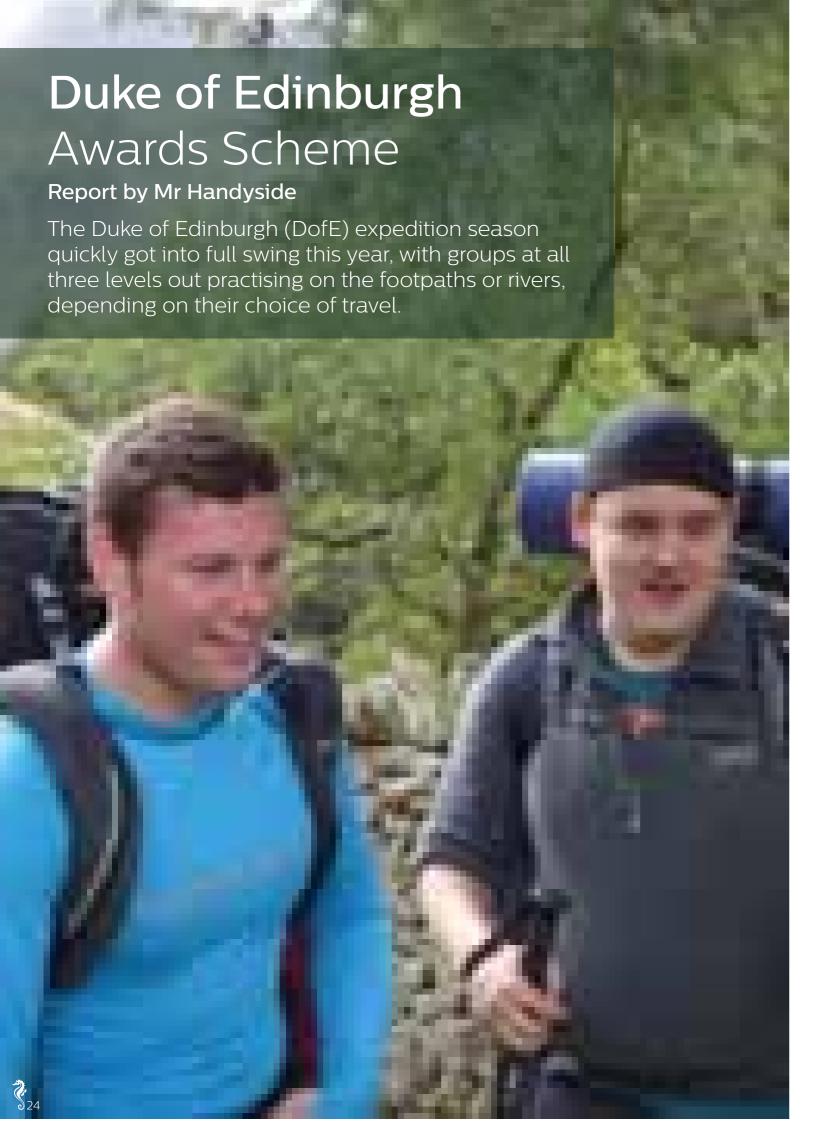
We have made great use of our facilities on-site, using the forest area to practice camouflage, concealment and tactical drills. We have also visited our sister unit at Malvern College several times this year to take part in weapons training and to have a go on their ranges.

We will be sending more Cadets on camp this year, where they will be on exercise with over 350 other Cadets. Moving forward, we are hoping to get out on a few weekend exercises with our sister unit in the build up to camp next year.



We have made great use of our facilities on-site





The Bronze candidates were first away with a two-day walk in the Cotswolds, incorporating an overnight camp at Folly Farm. This followed training trips to both the Cotswolds and Malvern Hills where the both the skills and the fitness needed were developed.

As very often happens in DofE, a great adventure was had by all! The group encountered inquisitive cows; crossed streams; clambered over fallen trees; experienced the 'we're lost' feeling and, whilst all this was going on, managed to collect evidence of the walk and produce a collage of the whole thing!



Not to be outdone, the **Silver group** had a great experience too, opting to paddle canoes.

The two groups learnt the skills and developed their upper body fitness on the River Severn, adjacent to school. The Practice Expedition was then held on the Upper Thames on what is probably the most beautiful section of the river.

At Lechlade, the river is quite narrow and winding, nothing like the busy wide river that everyone is familiar with in London, and an appreciation of how a river grows along its route was had by all.

Along the way they went through and operated Locks, paddled down a narrow Canoe Pass that twisted and turned and produced little rapids and waves and met many folk who lived and worked on the river.





At Gold Level, two groups were out in the Lake District for four days, three nights. They covered 40 miles altogether taking on the challenges of Bow Fell, the pyramid shaped mountain, as well as St Sunday's Crag, which is a very prominent feature in the skyline at Ullswater.



The journey seems to have been characterised by the adoption of 'Lord of the Rings' characters by the participants.

The Gold Groups are also going out on the Thames and the Wye, but will be doing longer journeys (4 days) and paddling greater distances (80 miles).

"The Award takes place over the whole year with the Expedition Season being focused in the more weather-friendly months of the year. There is no limit to the scope of them, depending more on the imagination and the willingness to accept the various challenges that appear".



## CISCO Trip

31 students from Bredon School took the trip of a lifetime to California in October half term.

The students made the 10,000 mile round trip as part of their Business and Cisco Academy studies.

Whilst there, they visited businesses such as Cisco, Citrix, Facebook and Google to see for themselves how each of these businesses became the leaders in their fields.

There was also time for fun, with the group taking a bicycle ride across the Golden Gate Bridge, visiting Alcatraz and interacting with Manta Rays at Seaworld.











"The trip was great.

"Not only did the students learn about many businesses and their market place, but we also learnt how to live, travel and really talk to each other.

Young and old, we had a fantastic time!"







### All Things Wild







#### Junior Residential

Report by Mrs Merchant

During the Spring term, KS2 along with Mr Stafford, Mrs Larner and Mrs Merchant climbed aboard two minibuses and headed off to Wales for three days of fun.

First stop was Cantref Farm where we had a great time in the giant fun barn working off some stiff bones. We had close encounters with several small mammals and then watched an eccentric animal pantomime!

Brecon Youth Hostel Association was our next stop and was to be our home for two nights.

The children's first task was to make their beds, which involved lots of children getting lost inside and twisted up in their duvet covers! A well-earned sleep was had all!

The following day we went to Llangorse Rope Centre, which saw the children and staff facing many challenges on climbing walls, ropes, abseiling, zip wires and caving.

The final day of our fabulous trip was a long walk along the Welsh stream that cascaded down past our hostel.



"For anyone who has ever visited Bredon School you will already know that it is a pretty unique school. Our motto is 'Come Alive and Thrive', which applies not only to the students, but to everyone involved in helping our students learn.

Here at Bredon, we have a cohort of students that have a range of individual learning needs and we are totally committed to making sure that everyone, regardless of any such barriers to learning, can get the most out of the experiences they encounter.

Sport is no different – I realised a couple of years ago that I am teaching amazing individuals who have the capacity to succeed in their own right.

My personal philosophy is that sport should be enjoyable for everyone. At Bredon, not one student makes excuses to avoid participating. We have a bespoke PE and Sports curriculum that provides opportunities for students to engage with traditional team games through to preparing for canoe endurance races and national clay pigeon shooting competitions.

Through our focus on individual sports, we achieve the best with our students.

However, we do not measure success through medals and trophies alone. It is just as rewarding to see a student complete a cross country run without stopping, or to walk along the length of a balance beam without falling off.

About 60% of our students have core strength, balance and bilateral coordination problems. To overcome this, we have added occupational therapy (OT) principles to our PE lessons and it's working – I never thought I would see some of our students playing hockey but they all do, and they play well.

We have two OTs on site and have additional support from an external OT who conducts assessments of the students' progress. In PE, we provide opportunities for individuals to complete exercises relevant to their needs and we provide one to one specialist support where we can. We carefully

and clay shooting as alternative sports on games afternoons.

Academically in Sport, we offer the Cambridge Technical suite of qualifications as these best fit with our style of learners. In the summer 2014 exams our learners, all of whom were dyslexic, achieved grade A and A\* A-level equivalent grades which took them on to the Universities and careers of their choice.

We offer sports leaders qualifications, which we find are very relevant for students who may not achieve major success in their sport but have the knowledge and

However, we do not measure success through medals and trophies alone. It is just as rewarding to see a student complete a cross country run without stopping, or to walk along the length of a balance beam without falling off.

select activities to promote mastery of motor skills. The result is that we have more confident, capable students than we would have if we'd just continued with a more traditional approach to PE. We are even about to invest in iPads to use in PE to help students with visual feedback and individual exercise programmes.

As a fairly small school with a small PE department, we do punch above our weight in terms of what we offer. We have a full competitive fixture calendar, we offer cycling, climbing, canoeing understanding to lead and motivate younger students. We even offer 'jobs' such as a tour statistician and tour photographer to encourage engagement with sport.

So, we do things differently here. But given that we still have county, regional and national sporting successes, a wide range of sports to have a go at, a broad fixture programme, we achieve great grades academically and all our students enjoy sport – different is obviously good!"

## Climbing\_

report by Mr Lister



Our climbing has continued to grow this year, and we now have over 25 junior and senior pupils climbing every week.

We have had a very successful year with the NICAS scheme with many pupils completing Levels 1 and 2, and even a few at Level 3.

Some of the senior group have started lead climbing, and have visited several climbing walls across the county. They will be making use of the new wall in Worcester in the coming months.

We have climbers of all abilities but all putting in the same amount of effort and determination to enjoy the sport. Amongst our best climbers are Josh Pettigrew and Lucas Kennedy with the seniors climbers, and Emily Graham and Kelly Modebe with the junior climbers. They are all climbing at a Grade of 6b and 6a respectively.

## Canoeing

#### report by Mr Handyside

Many of our regular paddlers have progressed exceptionally well this last year.

There has been a steady progression through the various boats with increasing degrees of difficulty and lessening degrees of stability.

A number of students have undertaken some longer distance training in the School's new racing craft, which bodes well for next year.

#### Notable successes this year:

Anna McIntyre, nominated as most improved Paddler.

Alastair Messore, who won an award last year and has continued to impress.

George Stead, who despite his nervousness has progressed well.

Charles Garland, who has managed major improvement.

The Racing Group; consisting of George Martin, Bertie Leschallas, Emma Toozs-Hobson and Sam Farley have continued to progress and impress.



## Athletics and cross country

There have been some strong individual performances this year, as well as a superb athletics team effort at competitions in the spring/summer.

#### **Cross country**

At the ISA Cross Country Trials in February the Bredon team met some stiff opposition. George Smith finished 40th out of 65; Grace Taylor 41/51; Elizabeth Morris 49/51 and Ed Clews 55/56. Year 11s Maia Hawkins finished a fantastic 2nd out of a field of 34, and Tristan Weir came in 24th out of 48.

In November, Bredon hosted 265 participants in the Year 4 and 5 South Worcestershire Schools Cross Country Trials. All the Bredon team ran well on the home course with Finlay Blockley finishing in second place in the Year 5 race.



Two days later it was the turn of Years 6, 7 and 8 to run in their cross country trials at Prince Henry's High School in Evesham. Again, good performances from all students meant that the Year 6 Boys Team finished 5th overall, with George Smith awarded a bronze medal for his individual performance.



The Year 8 Girls team were placed 4th overall with Sophie Rees placed 14th, Lourdes Martinavarro 20th, Lizzie Rowe 21st and Maddy Bue 32nd. The final race of the morning was the Year 8 Boys. David Evans put in a fantastic individual performance to collect the Bronze medal, and David Hird finished 8th.



#### **Athletics**

#### **ISA Triathlon**

In April, Year 11s Maia Hawkins won the girl's youth race at the ISA Midlands Triathlon event; finishing an astounding 14 minutes ahead of the second place runner. Maia's time was 4 minutes faster than the winner of the boy's youth race.

Year 9s Adam Egginton also competed, in the tri star 3 race, and was placed 19th out of 40 - a fantastic result in his first competitive triathlon event.





In mid-May, 42 eager athletes headed to Exeter Arena to represent Bredon School in the annual ISA South West Regional Athletics 2015 event.

All students performed to the best of their abilities, with some performing beyond even their own expectations!

The Bredon Team left the meet with a clutch of top place performances; 5 first places, 9 second and 6 thirds - a great achievement.

- Kaydn Windows Stone (Y10) got a first place in Shot putt, and second place in Javelin:
- Jennifer Wilson (Y7) was first in High Jump and second in the 100m;
- George Martin (Y11) won the High Jump;
- Maia Hawkins (Y11) won the 1500m;
- Lizzie Morris (Y9) won Discus.
- Sam Woolliams (Y10) also achieved a personal best performance in High Jump.

#### The Priest Cup 2015

Following the success in Exeter, the Athletics team headed to Cheltenham a few days later to compete in the South Worcestershire District Athletics, Priest Cup 2015.

A slightly more competitive event saw many of our athletes battling hard to fend off their opposition. There were successes for Kaydn Windows Stone, Eve Egginton, George Martin and Maia Hawkins in their individual events.

The overall team event ended with Bredon finishing respectable 4th place out of 6.







### Team photos

- A Shooting Team A
- B Shooting Team B
- C Shooting Team C
- D 1st Team Basketball

#### 1st team Basketball

В

The 1st team travelled to York to take part in the ISA National Basketball Tournament.

The team played really well and the organisers commended them on their team spirit, politeness and great sportsmanship.

As well as the games on the Sunday, the team were lucky enough to watch a professional game between the Sheffield Sharks and the Durham Wildcats the evening before to pick up some last minute tips and tactics for their tournament.













## **Team photos**

- A Senior Cricket Team
- B U14 Football

В

C Senior Football

Senior Football

Match highlight

In March, the Senior Boys played in a

football tournament

School. The tournament

was a 7-a-side format.

The boys played some

great football and only

lost one of their games;

finishing in joint 4th in

the tournament.

hosted at Lucton

#### **Team photos**

- A U14 Girls Netball
- B Senior Girls Netball
- C U14 Girls Hockey
- D Senior Girls Hockey



#### U14 Netball Match highlight

The Bredon U14 netball team were excited for their final match of the season in mid-March, against Bowbrook School. Holding an the girls were determined that they

It was a furious and fast-paced game. Quick passing between Lourdes Martinavarro and Jennifer Wilson got the ball to the shooters who were on target from the start. Great interceptions from Lizzie Morris and Eve Egginton at the Bowbrook centre restarts meant that Bredon were in control of the game.

By half time, the score was 5-0 to Bredon. The second half continued at a high pace, with Bowbrook managing to get 2 goals back, but Bredon scored a further 5 from great shots by Maddy Bue and Lauren Hayward to finish the year unbeaten! Final score 10-2 to







unbeaten record so far in the season, would play to the best of their ability.

Bredon.





## Barbados

2016 upcoming hockey tour



We are once again hoping to visit Barbados to participate in a mixed hockey tour, in 2016.



Our students will be asked to take part in various fundraising activities to help cover the costs of the trip. We are also seeking sponsors, to help cover kit costs so if you think you can help, please contact Miss Lea in the sports department.

Some members of the team kick-started their fundraising activities at the May Day Country Fair, selling sweets and drinks, and helping out with the

### Lacrosse

It was a great pleasure for Bredon to host a Lacrosse tournament in the autumn, specifically for players new to the game.

The newly-formed Bredon team had several Lacrosse training sessions prior to the event and it seemed an appropriate way to test what they had learnt!

A rather nervous start to event meant that it took the first couple of games for the team to settle. In the third match though, against Rendcomb B team. we walked off as winners.

A close 4th game against the 'Malvern' team was lost 2-0. In the 5th game, against Rendcomb A, Lauren Hayward found the goal to secure another

win. In the final game, we played against Hanley. They were a much more physical team but the Bredon skill and team work won through with a 3-2 victory at the final whistle.



The final results meant that Bredon were placed 4th overall; a very respectable placing that shows just how quickly the students have adapted to this new game.

Thank you to David Abini, Worcester Lacrosse Development Officer.

## Shooting

for the Bredon Shooting success in the Schools shoot events at School in equipment and coaching.

#### September

In September, Shooting team captain James Lewis shot his first ever 50/50 at the Oxford in the Open (Adult) category taking home with him a £300

Vice Captain Tom Scott finished 2nd in the Under of 47/50. Max Haywood finished in 5th place in the Under 21s, with a score of this event and this was his

#### March

any other school and were older, more experienced was James Lewis with 48/50.

#### May

Bredon Festival of Shooting weekend, the Bredon A team walked away as winners again, finishing with an impressive score of 226 out of 250, some way ahead of the 2nd place team.

this, the 10th anniversary year

the past.



Congratulations to the whole team – and keep up the good work!





## Individual sporting success

#### Athletics Kaydn Windows Stone Javelin and shot

Kaydn came 1st in Shot Putt and 2nd in Javelin at the ISA South West Athletics meet and has qualified for the ISA National Shot Putt competition in June. Kaydn was 2nd in both Shot Putt and Javelin at the District Athletics Trials and has competed in the County trials for these events also.

#### Maia Hawkins

Maia is Bredon's current highest performing athlete, and has long been the one-to-watch at the ISA regional and national events.

This year, she won the ISA Youth Girls triathlon, finishing with a fantastic lead over the second placed athlete, and finished in 2nd place in the ISA National Cross Country finals. She won the ISA South West 1500m final, and qualified for the national competition in June. Maia won the District 1500m race and competed in the County trials also.

Maia is also a South West squad triathlete and a regional swimmer.

#### Tennis Sophie Rees

Sophie trains outside of school regularly and at school with her coach on Wednesday and Thursdays. She is part of the High Performance Centre at Bath University, where she trains every Friday. She is in both the U14 and U16 county tennis teams. In a recent ISA tennis tournament, she finished in 3rd place.

In May, Sophie played in her first major European tournament in Sliven, Bulgaria. She is working her way up through the national rankings and is currently ranked 314/2015 in the U14 age category. She also has a national U16 ranking of 301.

## Cycling David Hird

David continues to cycle competitively every week, having only taken up the sport two years ago. This year he competed in a National circuit road race, near Sunderland, and in March finished 5th in the British Schools Cycling Association National Cyclocross Championship, U13 Boys.

He currently races at U14 level and is ranked 81st for Road & Track and 88th for Cross-Country Mountain Biking in the British Cycling National Ranking system.

In May, David was selected to ride in the annual Isle of Man Youth & Junior Tour, part of British Cycling's National Youth Circuit Series.



#### Equestrian Adam, Eve and Eddie Egginton

An equestrian team is a brand new venture for Bredon and Adam, Eve and Eddie have burst onto the scene competing in the National School Equestrian Association Series.

Eve finished 6th individually in the warm up class in a national competition earlier in the year, and the team was 5th in their NSEA KBIS County Dressage class in April, qualifying for the Championships.





## British Food Fortnight



Bredon celebrated British Food Fortnight with a fabulous new menu containing all local and British foods.

The Junior pupils have been learning about healthy eating too, and they spent a very yummy morning creating their own fruit and vegetables kebabs to enjoy!

We also helped with Harvest Festival donations for the local churches, all produce courtesy of the School Farm.

#### Treat time...

Bredon celebrated Chinese New Year in style with a little help from Year 11's Jerry Li.

Helping Head Chef Craig Butler to cook up a sumptuous Chinese lunch, Jerry whipped up a chicken, ginger and soy dish, to be enjoyed alongside Beef and green pepper, vegetable chow mein, egg fried rice and accompaniments including spring rolls, prawn crackers and traditional Chinese dumplings.



## World of Animals Malvern Autumn Show

At the end of September, Bredon sponsored the World of Animals area at the Malvern Autumn Show.

As well as showing our Large White pig, Isabelle, who coincidentally celebrated her birthday during the weekend, we also had a large stand where children could decorate wooden cookies, as we do in Forest School lessons, and plant a crocus bulb to take home and care for.

There was lots of interest in our competition to collect animal stamps from exhibitors within the World of Animals.



Pupils Jamie O'Riordan and Sam Willies met with the then President of the Three Counties Agricultural Society, Dame Janet Trotter, and told her all about Bredon and its farm before she was taken on a tour of the World of Animals by Mr Tweddell.



## Countrytastic

This one day celebration of the countryside is now in its 8th year, and some 6,000 visitors flocked to the Three Counties Showground to see working dog demonstrations, falconry displays, livestock parades and to have the chance to get up close and personal with all types of animals from miniature donkeys to alpacas, pigs to chickens, sheep to rabbits and ponies to birds of prey.

The Bredon School team were there providing fun, free activities including balloon sheep herding, cress head pots, a 'guess what's in the box' competition, as well as colouring, crafts and a fun peek-through farmyard scene.

BBC Countryfile presenter Adam Henson was there, providing both commentary and expertise, as well as finding the time to talk to exhibitors and visitors. We even managed to convince him to play the part of the Bredon School farm manager for this fun photograph!



### **Christmas** at Bredon

The Young Explorers performed their version of the nativity. There were uncooperative shepherds, stubborn donkeys and the odd angel taking a tumble, but overall there were lots of tears and 'aaahs' from the very proud parents, grandparents and friends in the audience.

The photographs of the nativity became our most popular Facebook post of the year with over 1,600 views!

A collection was made at the end of the service and money was raised for Ntunungwe School in Zimbabwe.



Our toddler group braved the chilly temperatures to take a walk through Bredon's enchanted wood where they met Father Christmas, and the Christmas Fayre on 5th December, organised by Friends at Bredon, was extremely well supported and raised an incredible £1,000.

Thank you to everyone who came along, donated gifts for the tombola, or bought presents from the assorted stalls and stallholders.

Everyone had great fun on the ice rink which magically appeared in the courtyard of Pull Court. The whole day was a great success and certainly made us all feel very festive.









Photo: Students enjoy Christmas dinner.

On the final day of term, we made our annual trip to Tewkesbury Abbey for our Carol Service led by the Reverend Chris Moss from Queenhill Church.

There were readings by pupils Thomas Serrano, Danielle Tipton and Tayte Nickols as well as readings by the Headmaster and Mrs Blair.

The School choirs were in fine voice and sang along with the congregation.
The Junior School choir made us all laugh with their fabulous rendition of Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer and the Senior Choir performed a beautiful version of Happy Christmas (War is Over).



## What a **FABulous** year!

#### Report by FAB co-chairs Nicola Morris & Emma Checkley

Friends at Bredon (FAB) has had a busy year working closely with parents, friends, pupils and staff.

The Christmas Fair was bigger than in previous years, offering a wonderful range of gifts, fresh produce and exciting activities. We created a magical grotto for Santa to visit, and the Bank House Hotel in Worcester kindly donated boxes of decorations, light up reindeers and furs. Andy Morris built a sleigh for the children to sit in and receive their gifts, and we were delighted to see so many smiling faces.



Apple day was a great success also, allowing us to make nearly 600 bottles of Bredon School Apple juice. The juice has been very popular and has made a unique gift for many. We hope to run this again in September.

FAB had a great day at the May Day fair. Once more our esteemed chefs Rupert and Andy entertained the crowds with their cookery antics! The development of the 'FABway 'sandwich stall began this year; a project aimed at encouraging pupils to become more involved in the management of a product, its creation and delivery. The sandwiches were delicious, and will be available at forthcoming events.

This year, the money raised by FAB has been used to support events such as the leavers ball, ice rink etc. We have also provided funding for a sublimation printer for the technology department to enable pupils to turn their designs into marketable products such as mugs and tee-shirts.

Staff, pupils and parents are encouraged to approach FAB with ideas of how the money raised can support the students.

Your support and the support of Bredon students has once more been incredible - thank you and we look forward to seeing you all soon.

## Daffodil planting

Friday 3rd October was our Daffodil planting afternoon.



All year groups, teachers and parents, armed with bulbs, spades and trowels helped to plant some 3.000 bulbs around the School grounds!

As soon as they started to bloom, the countdown to summer had begun.



## Spooky disco

The Junior pupils enjoyed an afternoon of music, dancing and ghostly games at their special, spooky disco in October.

Photo - Freddie as a pumpkin!

All dressed to impress, the Juniors really got into the spirit of the event and Mr Johnson helped to whip up a storm on the dance floor thanks to his efforts on the decks.

For some, it was their first ever school disco!

Photo - Daniel welcoming his guests





## Easter time

Pictured is Mrs Boakes' Year 10 English group solving clues in order to complete an Easter egg hunt around the grounds.

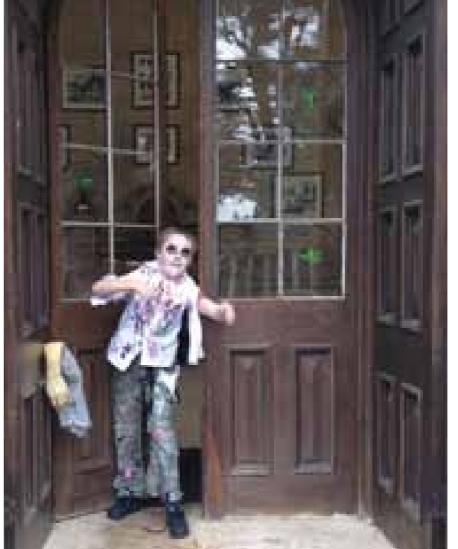


It wasn't as easy as it sounds – as well as solving the clues to move on to the next stage, students were asked to identify literary devices used within the clues, such as repetition, similes, rhyme and personification.

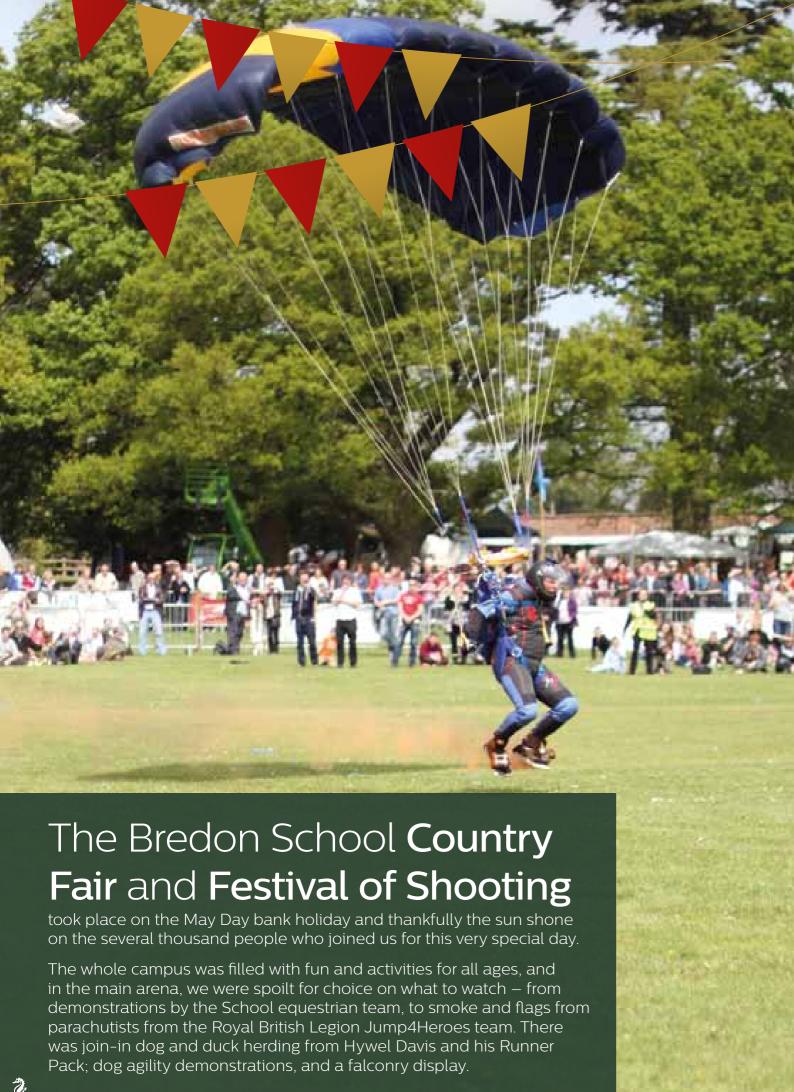


They all did very well and were rewarded with chocolately treats!

And in a slightly less difficult trail, our youngest pupils also enjoyed an egg hunt!









In the guad was a have a go circus workshop, punch and Judy, dancing, music and magic, plus face painting and a bugs and beasties habitat stall.

Elsewhere there were snakes and skunks from Animal Mania in Worcester, vintage tractors and static engines, inflatables galore, rugby tots, a cycle challenge and even a gathering of classic cars and the local Mini club.

Screams of delight filled the air when the BMX Show events team took to the ramp, thrilling the crowds who had assembled to watch. To top it off, there was music, dancing and food and drink a plenty including a very busy Friends at Bredon BBQ and filled sandwiches production line! And for those wanting to spend some money, 30 local craftspeople and traders filled the market place.













To all the staff. students and parents who helped in the run up to the day, throughout the day itself and afterwards to clear away - a huge thank you!



Keep next year's date free - Monday 2nd May 2016.





## Swarm the World

World-wide Butterfly installation Arts project.



Bredon School is proud to be part of an international arts project called 'Swarm the World', a year-long collaborative street art project organised by New York-based artist, Tasha Lewis.

Her 4,000 magnetic cyanotype butterflies will travel the globe, offering lucky recipients the chance to photograph and record their 'swarm', before posting on to the next guardian.

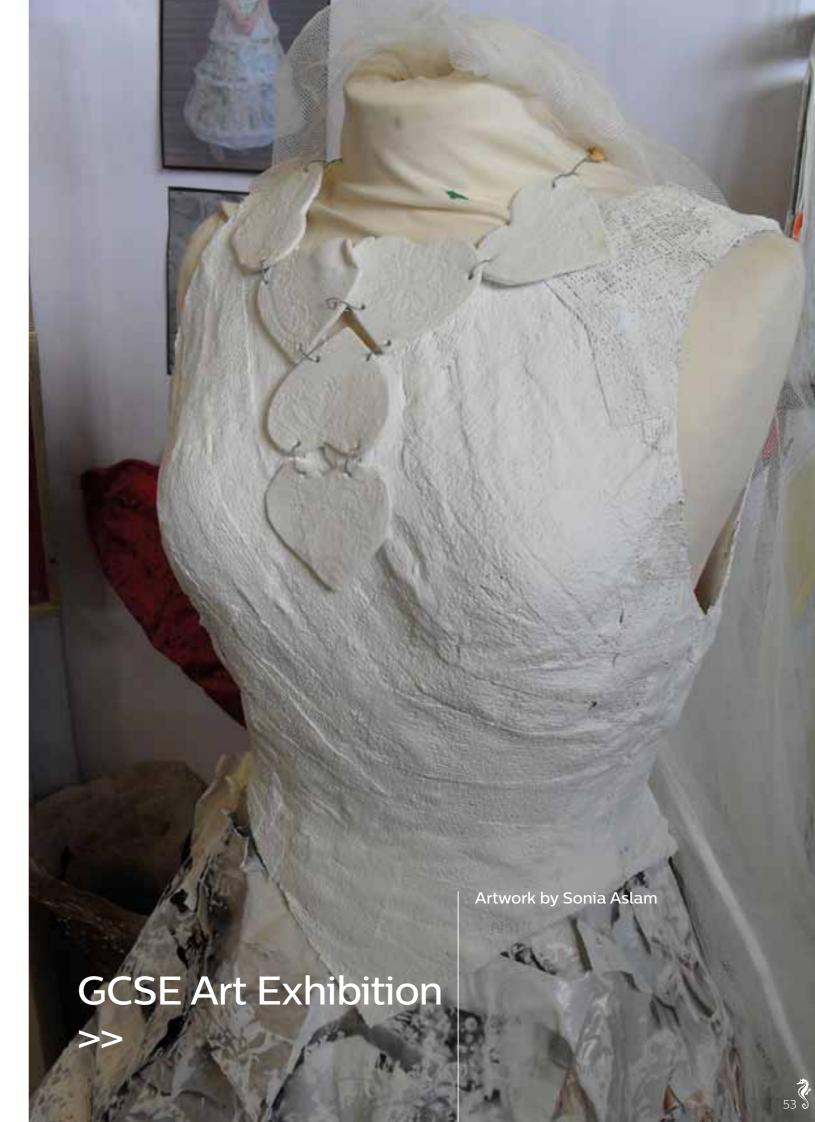
As part of their global journey, a small swarm of these stunning butterflies will make a stop at Pull Court.

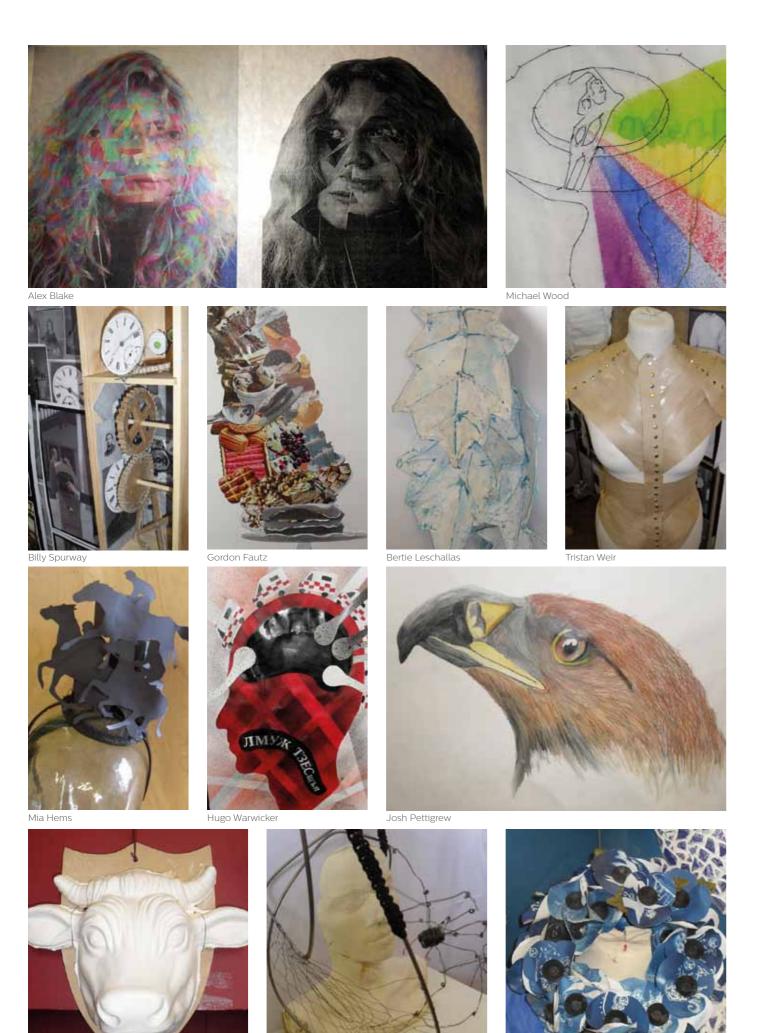
Whilst here they will be lovingly installed in various places among the architecture, woodlands and park by the pupils, and then photographed and the images uploaded onto social media as part of the worldwide project.

Mrs Pritchard, Head of Art, applied to take part in the truly global project and said, "'Swarm the World' is a wonderful opportunity for our students to take part in a creative and unique project. At the same time it will give them a chance to share some of what they admire about their School with the world".

"We are following their journey with great interest."

Bredon's butterflies have already been in the Bahamas and after touring Belgium and Germany are headed for India, Thailand, Australia and Mexico, among other destinations. The photo-documented project can be followed on facebook and twitter and to find out more about how this project started go to; www.swarmtheworld.com





Sam Farley











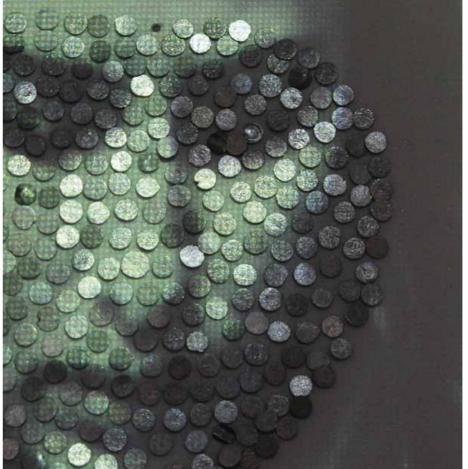


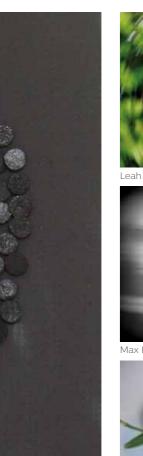






Danielle Tipton













Nick Gilchrist

## Scratch Youth Messiah

Our choir once again made the trip to the Royal Albert Hall in November to sing with Suzi Digby as part of the Scratch Youth Messiah.

The Scratch Youth Messiah has been crowned 'Best Classical Music Education Initiative' in the 2015 Music Teacher Awards for Excellence, and certainly provided our choir with an unforgettable experience – joining over 1,200 other young voices to perform the Messiah from scratch.

Bredon also got an extra special mention as it was named as the highest fundraising School for the charity associated with the concert, WaterAid. Bredon was awarded £500 as winners, to spend in the School's music department.

A great day was had by all, and as one parent summarised, "I had to write to you to share what a marvellous day we all had at the Royal Albert Hall, yesterday. Mrs Ferrari has brought together a wonderful choir and to take them to the Scratch Messiah was such a wonderful experience for them all. We were thrilled to be able to take all our family, and both sets of grandparents, to watch and support".



## Young Voices Concert

In January, the choir took part in the Young Voices series of concerts, with the Bredon choir performing at the LG Arena in Birmingham.

Singing with over 5,000 other children, the Young Voices concerts are designed to get more children into choirs, and the concerts use the very best sound, lighting and production teams to make the concerts as spectacular as any other arena-based concert!

Another amazing opportunity for our singers.

#### Juniors Red Nose Day video

The Junior School pupils put on their red noses and were 'Making Funny Faces' to join in this year's Red Nose Day charity appeal.

Lead by Mrs Ferrari, they performed the official Red Nose Day Schools Song and recorded a humorous music video to accompany it. The song and the fabulous video certainly put a smile on the faces of those who saw it on our various social media channels!



## Recording Stars!

In March, working with School Recording Stars a specialist music-for-schools company, over 20 Bredon students had the amazing opportunity to work with a professional sound engineer to record 10 tracks of their choosing, to create a unique Bredon School CD.

The album entitled 'Live at Pull Court' went on sale shortly afterwards in order to raise funds for the Music department.

#### Track list:

#### 1. Spring Chicken.

Performed by the Junior choir, The Seahorse Singers.

#### 2. The Bedbug Blues.

Composition by Will Eamer, vocals by Mrs Ferrari.

#### 3. The Mockingbird Song.

Composition by Callum Gray, vocals by Mrs Ferrari.

#### 4. Johnny Be Good.

Performed by the Bredon School Band - Tayte Nickols, Tom Wirth, Saad Khawaja, Jim McKinnie and Mr Johnson on vocals.

#### 5. Get Back.

Performed by the Bredon School Band - Tayte Nickols, Tom Wirth, Saad Khawaja, Jim McKinnie and Mr Johnson on vocals.

#### 6. Just One.

Poem, read by Harrison Morton-Deaville.

#### 7. The Abyss.

Composition by Jim McKinnie and Sam Farley.

#### 8. Say It Ain't So.

Peformed by the winning band of the 2015 House Music Competition, Jarrett – Jude Morris, Will Stone, Kai Gunning, George Martin and Jim McKinnie.

#### 9. Moondance.

Performed by Tom Wirth and Tayte Nickols.

#### 10. Don't Stop Believin'.

Performed by the Senior Choir – Senior Expression.

Each artist received a certificate on the day.





Pupils performing at the May Day Fai



## Lots of little visitors

#### Parent and toddler group

Our parent and toddler group continues to prove popular with many who choose to visit Bredon with their babies and toddlers.

As well as healthy snacks and drinks, there's always time to run around outside, play with the toys in the Junior playground, meet the farm animals and take a good long walk through the woods. Dates are published on the School website and there's no need to book.

"A great group... One for those whose little ones love being outside, seeing animals and walking through muddy puddles in the forest. My 3 & 1 year olds think its so much fun!" Parent, netmums.





#### **Tirlebrook Nursery**

Tirlebrook Nursery in
Tewkesbury made a visit to
School in the spring time to
meet the sheep and their
lambs, to pat the ponies
and to enjoy a morning
in the countryside. Ably
hosted by our students,
the nursery children had a
very enjoyable day and we
received a lovely thank you
letter afterwards.

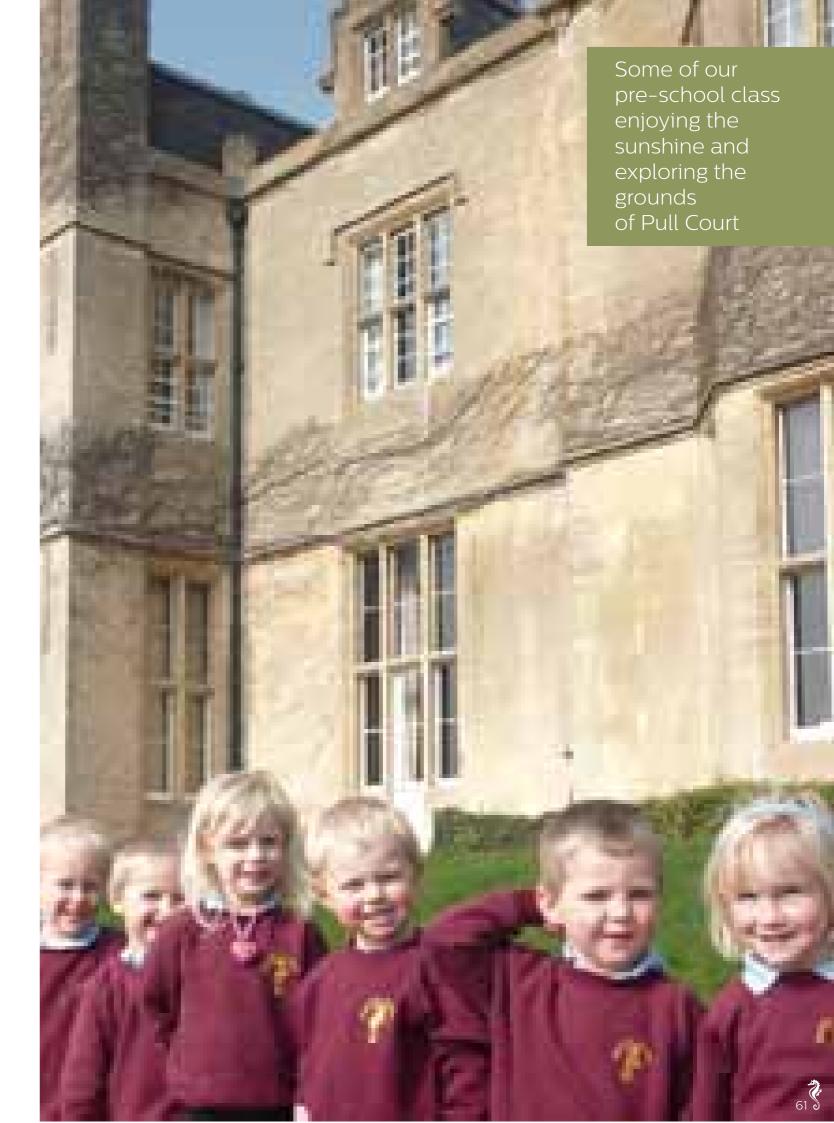
#### **Twins Group**

We have been seeing double over the holidays here at Bredon, thanks to the Cheltenham Twins Group who have been hosting their get togethers within our Junior School. They too have enjoyed all that the Bredon School grounds have to offer...



"Spent a lovely morning at Bredon School with the Cheltenham Twins Group. What a beautiful location."







#### This year, Mrs Amy Leeke joined us as our new Reception and KS1 class teacher.

With 16 years teaching experience, 11 of which were spent at Dean Close Pre-Prep School, Mrs Leeke and her Reception class share with us some of their highlights from this year:

- The Nativity play at Christmas – not a dry eye in the house!
- Our Mother's Day tea party - we baked the cakes ourselves!
- The arrival of our very own pet rabbits we called them Olaf and Elsa!



• Our school trip to 'All Things Wild'



- ·Ice skating at Pull Court at the Christmas Fair
- Father Christmas' surprise visit while we were drinking hot chocolate in the woods

#### In their words!

**Q**: What is good about the Reception class/this year at school?



"I like walking over the bridge to the fields" Aiden, aged 5

"I Love Painting and cooking with Miss with Fin."

Rebeccah, aged 5

**Q**: What have you learnt/achieved during the year?



"I can do adds and take aways" Isy, aged 5





#### Memorable moments ...

- Surprise visit from three fire engines when a cow got stuck in the river
- Seeing who could get the muddiest on the mud slide during Welly Wednesday sessions!
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$  Cooking and eating pancakes in the forest with Mr Stafford
- · Visiting the piglets when they were just one day old
- · Hunting for Easter eggs in the forest (and eating them all before we got back to class!)



#### **Danielle Tipton**

#### When did you join Bredon?

I started at Bredon in the final year of the Juniors, so I've been here over 8 years.

#### What's your greatest memory of your time here?

When I got the star role as Sleeping Beauty at the end of my first year. I'm still so proud of that - it was the first time I realised I had any talent!

#### What has been your biggest achievement?

Realising that I am worth something and that I do actually have a brain! I've made so much progress here.

## What has been the highlight of your year as Head Girl?

Developing my people skills and being able to interact with lots of different age groups. It's been good to feel that younger students can look up to me and learn from me.

The cake at the Friday prefect's meeting has been good too, especially when it's chocolate cake!

#### Where next, after Bredon?

I am going on to do a Foundation Degree in Photography and Film Studies at Hereford Art School.

## If you had one piece of advice to offer to younger pupils here at Bredon, what would it be?

Hold on and don't let go! Even when life gets hard, your dream is still there in front of you.

#### **Tayte Nickols**

#### When did you join Bredon?

I started at Bredon in Year 9, so I've been here for a good few years.

## What's your greatest memory of your time here?

For me, it is definitely the first time I picked up a guitar in a music lesson - it seems like I've never put it down since!

#### What has been your biggest achievement?

Overcoming the issues that dyslexia brings. I am now taking A Level English, which for me is a huge achievement.

## What has been the highlight of your year as Head Boy?

There are a few! My friends have been brilliant. I've particularly enjoyed saying, 'Please stand for the Headmaster!"

But I have also learnt a lot, including new strategies to develop my role and manage my academic studies at the same time.

#### Where next, after Bredon?

I am moving on to BIMM - the British and Irish Modern Music Institute to study for a Professional Musicianship Degree.

## If you had one piece of advice to offer to younger pupils here at Bredon, what would it be?

Chin up - head down!

## In your words

"We are writing to thank the school for all you have done for our daughter. From the very first day you made us feel comfortable and our daughter has had an unforgettable experience. All of you have made her stay a wonderful experience and she has taken with her some marvellous memories and friends". Parent.

"Both (our sons) are shining examples of what a wonderful, active, supportive and confidence building environment Bredon School is. We are very proud of both of them". Parent.

"Thank you so much for looking after me on my guest visit last week. I had a wonderful time meeting the students and staff. They were all so friendly. It was lovely to wake up to the most amazing views and to run around the grounds in the evening".

Guest pupil.

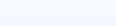
"Next year, my daughter starts her GCSE courses. She is taking 8 GCSEs and has every chance of passing all of them. A hugely different scenario from her previous school. Her potential has been unlocked at Bredon — I can't wait to see how she will turn out at the end of her education there!"

"Your website is so positive and nurturing that I couldn't resist making contact". Prospective parent.

"Thank you so much for everything you have done (for our son). My husband and I have noticed a significant difference in his maths skills and his academic confidence. We are so grateful to you for all of the care you have shown to him". Parent.

"Thank you for organising the residential trip. (Our daughter) loved it and said Wednesday was the best day ever. She wanted the trip to last a week not just 3 days. Praise indeed! You are all so committed to the children and it's truly wonderful that any difficulties they might have are never an issue at Bredon. They are just one of the gang!". Parent.

"(Our daughter) had many positive stories to share about her experience last week and feels safe and valued". Parent.







## Spotlight on... Old Bredonian's

Many of our ex-pupils, known as Old Bredonian's, have gone on to enjoy successful careers and lead interesting lives all around the world. Here we feature a few of our inspirational 'OBs'

Jacob Hall - Film maker

Bredon pupil from

2007 – 14



"Bredon allowed me to become more of an individual, and made me more confident in my ability to socialise"



A recent 'graduate' of Bredon, Jacob only waved goodbye to us in the summer of 2014.

Jacob joined Bredon in the summer term of 2007, having struggled to find a school at his home in Guernsey that could cater for his learning needs. He says, "Going to Bredon was a far better alternative than getting destroyed in a Guernsey High school, where student numbers are larger and teachers have less time for you.

"At Bredon they had the resources to help kids like me, and because the class sizes are small, teachers spend more time with individual students. Bredon allowed me to become more of individual, and made me more confident in my ability to socialise".

"My later years at Bredon were great, because I discovered my love for filmmaking and animation. Mr McKerr, Former Head of Art, saw potential in me and really made me challenge myself. It was worth it — I achieved an A\* grade at GCSE and at A-Level Art.

"Mrs Richardson also saw potential in me, and as both a Media studies teacher and a personal Tutor, she was there for me.

I also discovered my love for history, and really shined in History at GCSE and A-Level.

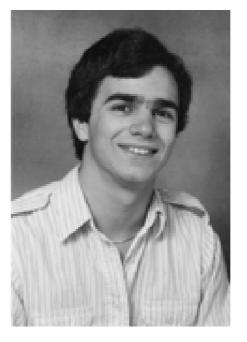
"I am currently studying in London at the Metfilm School based at Ealing Studios. I am now completing my Third Module which is Making Short Films. I directed a short film in April, and am currently editing it in post-production.

"I love it here and enjoy the buzz... I have made some really good friends, who really respect me as an individual. I have been able to be open about my autism, since I learned that being honest about something makes you happier and relieves you of a lot of pressure.

"I finish my degree in September of 2016, before I head off to spend the whole of 2017 dedicated to 3D animation and VFX".

#### Andrew Owen Katsirubas – Master mariner

Bredon pupil from 1982-84



Andrew pictured during his Bredon days

"He was the first overseas pupil to be appointed as Head Boy at Bredon"



Andrew was born in Massachusetts, USA, in November 1965. He was the first overseas pupil to be appointed as Head Boy at Bredon.

Tragically, Andrew died on 28th May 2003 at his home in Washington State. His mother Judith Hughes happily shares her memories of Andrew's time at Bredon:

"Andrew was diagnosed with dyslexia and auditorymemory deficiency in his early school years. Frustrated by the whole learning process, Andrew had a history of quitting when things got tough. His previous educational experience had him truly believing that he could not excel in academics.

"After being posted to London, by my employer, Bredon School was one of three Schools recommended to us by an education consultant. After visiting each school, Bredon became Andrew's first choice.

"Andrew was a strong swimmer and long distance runner, and a fearless American football player! With the coaching and guidance of Bredon staff; Mr. Cross, Mr. Wanamaker, and Headmaster Mr. Thomas, the support of his classmates, and the discipline of the prefect system, Andrew turned his life around.

"He gained confidence, developed study skills, and met his academic goals. He was co-captain of the Bredon 1st XV; a triathlete; and won highest honours for the two years he was at Bredon.

"This experience, and the responsibility that came with it, served Andrew throughout his life. He set a good example for all, kept his promises and commitments, and - most of all - he followed Mr. Thomas' admonition to "Persevere, Katsirubas. Persevere."

That perseverance carried him through the U.S. Coast Guard's Master Mariner's program. At the time of his death, Andrew was qualified to captain all vessels in all oceans and had been initiated into the Order of the Golden Dragon. He was 2nd Mate, Safety Officer, and Emergency Medical Technician aboard the F/T Pacific Glacier.

## Alice Stevens – Amateur jockey



Next season, Alice will be racing whilst sponsored by the NFU

## Andrei Lussmann - restaurateur

Bredon pupil from

1984 —1991



"For me, Bredon has mastered a way of drawing out of an individual what they could best offer and how they could best achieve" Alice joined Bredon in Year 7, and left us in 2014 after completing her GCSE years.

A talented sports and horsewoman, Alice is currently studying Level 3 Equine at Moreton Morrell College in Warwickshire.

She says, "Bredon gave me the confidence to believe in myself and to have the mindset that I could achieve, both in my riding and in my studies.

"I am currently studying a Level 3 course, without additional support, and everything that I am learning could, one day, enable me to set up my own yard. I am learning about anatomy, animal biology, business, equitation theory, as well as riding and stable skills".

Alice is also pursuing her ambition to go on to win a Novice Title in Point to Point racing, and she's enjoyed three wins on the trot so far this year. She has also won the Ladies Open.

Prior to joining Bredon, school had always been a fairly unhappy place for Andrei, but at Bredon he was able to excel both academically and in sport; going on to represent the school in the first XV rugby team, the cross country team, and as part of the British Fencing team.

After Bredon, he went on to study Hospitality and Business at university and in 2002 opened his first eaterie in London, which became a favourite of locals and celebrities, before opening the first of three Fish & Grill restaurants in the South of England. He will shortly open his fourth.

Andrei says, "I struggled in my early education career but it was so good to get to Bredon and realise that although academic achievement is important, what is more important is to bring out the best in every individual and allow an individual to believe in themselves".

"I was elected Head Boy twice, in 1989 and again in 1990, which is pretty unusual and something I would never have believed was possible.

"For me, Bredon has mastered a way of drawing out of an individual what they could best offer and how they could best achieve, and then giving every encouragement, love, tuition and guidance to be the best you can".

Lussmanns Restaurants are listed in the Waitrose Good Food Guide, and have been awarded several national awards for sustainability. Andrei and his teams serve over 3,000 people each month, and he employs over 80 staff.

"I have wonderful memories of my time at Bredon and I will forever appreciate what it enabled me to go on to achieve".

## Staff leavers

#### Mark Elliott

Mark joined Bredon in September 1982 and over the years has taught PSHCE to many hundreds of students, and helped to organise exciting and challenging work experience placements for the older students as part of his careers role.

He has been very involved in the Shooting club activity, as well as accompanying the team to various competitions all over the country. In recent years, he has also been responsible for coordinating the charitable and community involvement work of the school

Mark is leaving Bredon after 33 years service, to spend more time with his family, including his young grandson.

#### Fran Benjamin

Fran is also retiring, after 18 years of loyal service.

She joined Bredon in September 1997 and during her time has been a teacher of KS2 Junior Technology, KS3 Food Technology, KS4 GCSE Catering, BTEC Hospitality, KS5 GCSE Home Economics (Child Development), as well as a Sixth Form tutor and an activities coordinator!

Fran has thoroughly enjoyed her time spent working with the students and will miss them. Typically altruistic, she says that her greatest memory will be, "seeing the pupils enjoying success and going on to do great things".

#### Liz Loveridge

Liz Loveridge joined Bredon School as Head of English and Drama in April 2005 and continued these roles when she was appointed Assistant Head of Teaching and Learning in 2013.

Liz leaves us to take up a post at the aptly named Elizabeth College in Guernsey teaching English.

She is looking forward to life by the sea, being able to walk to and from work and having enough time for walks on the beach with her dog, Mungo.

#### Sarah Wallis

Sarah joined Bredon as a part time School Nurse in 2008 working in the medical centre

She has been a Houseparent on Junior landing Monday to Friday also, along with her duties in the medical centre.

Sarah has recently become a grandmother for the first time to a little boy and is leaving Bredon in order to spend more time with him and the rest of her family.

#### Jayne Hogan

Jayne has been with Bredon for four years, working as a Teaching Assistant and Learning Support Teacher.

She is known as being very kind and supportive to her students and in particular, in supporting sixth formers often giving up her lunchtime to ensure they meet coursework deadlines.

Jayne lead the Bredon School Reading Group and worked closely with Duke of Edinburgh students to support less confident readers within the School.

#### Jennifer Sequerah

Jennifer joined Bredon in 2014 as an Assistant Houseparent in Boarding.

Always smiling and cheerful, Jennifer brought her humour, good sense and strong relationships with the boarders to the landings and will be missed.

She leaves us to go on to study towards her PGCE teaching qualification. We wish her well for the future.

#### Alicia Lawson

Alicia joined in 2014 also, employed as an Assistant Houseparent.

Known for her amazing dress sense, unbelievable cycling expeditions and relaxed and humorous attitude to life, Alicia will leave a gap on the landings.

She too leaves Bredon to go on to study towards her PGCE teaching qualification.

#### **Marianne Bailey**

Marianne joined the team in April 2013, starting in the Junior School, where she worked as a Teaching Assistant. Her artistic qualities proved a great asset to life in the Junior School, particularly come pantomime time, when Marianne was regularly observed up to her elbows in paint and paper mâché!

Marianne then moved to the Senior School where she has been extremely versatile supporting students of various ages in various subjects.

She is off to study for a PGCE, and we wish her a very happy teaching career.





## Staff List

#### **Local Governing Body**

Chairman – Mr Aatif Hassan (Cavendish Education)

Ms D Reynders - Carr (Cavendish Éducation).

Mrs L Melhuish (Former - Principal, Padworth College, Reading & ISI Team Inspector)

Mr S Aiano (Former - Headmaster, Bearwood College, Wokingham).

Mr R Hart (Former - Headmaster, Greggs School, Southampton)

Rev.R Clarke (Former - Headmaster, Appleford School, Wiltshire).

Mr J Robertson (Former - Headmaster, The Marchant-Holliday School, Educational Consultant).

#### Senior Leadership Team

Headmaster: Mr David AT Ward MA, B.Ed.

Deputy Head Curriculum: Mr B Ferrari MA PgCert, BA (Hons), DipEdPsy, FIFL

Deputy Head Timetable & Inspection: Mr S Williams MSc (Econ), BA (Hons).

Deputy Head Pastoral/Head of Safeguarding: Mr N S Allison BSc, DipSW, PGCE

Deputy Head Pastoral: Mrs G Hamilton PCGE

Head of SEN: Mrs D Jones BA (Hons) Cert SpLD

Head of Junior School: Mrs J Merchant M.Ed (Hons), PGCE. SENCO Key Stages 1 & 2.

Lead Houseparent: Mr K Summers BA (Hons)

Bursar: Mr D Ricketts AAT.

#### Teaching staff

Mrs A Abrams BA (Hons), MA, Cert Ed - Mathematics

Mrs W Blair B.Ed (Hons), M.Ed, SpLD - Access Centre

Mrs H Boakes Cert Ed, MA - Access Centre Mr I Boundy BSc, PGCE -Science

Ms J Bourne Cert Ed, PGrad Dip, MEd - Access Centre

Ms R Bridgen BA (Hons), Cert Ed - Access Centre

Mr M Bull BA (Hons) - EAL

Mrs C Britten BSc (Hons), PGCE - Physics

Mrs M Challoner BA (Hons), PGCE - Business Studies

Mr H Chance BA (Hons), PGCE - History
Ms G Cohen BSc, PGCE - Information Technology & Computer Science

Mr G Crwys - Williams, Catering & Hospitality

Mrs G Ferrari - Music

Mr C Follett BA (Hons), PGCE - Mathematics

Mrs J Geerlings Cert Ed, Dip SpLD, Adv Dip ESOL - English & Exams/SAA Assessor

Mrs J Grant B.Ed (Hons) - Access Centre Ms A Grey, BA (Hons) - Arts & Graphics

Mr J Handyside Cert Ed - Outdoor Education & Water Sports

Mrs J Jakeman BA (Hons), PGCE - Geography & History Miss H Jeffery BSc, PGCE - Access Centre

Mr K Jeffery B.Ed (Hons) Dip Sp Ed - SENCO Key Stages 4 & 5

Mr M Johnson BA (Hons), PGCE - Business Studies

Mrs L Jones - Access Centre Mr D Keyte PGCE - Physical Education

Miss V Last B.Ed (Hons), Cert SpLD - Access Centre

Miss S Lea BSc (Hons), PGCE - Physical Education Mrs A Leeke BA (Hons), PGCE, OCR Level 7 - Key Stage 1

Mr P Milton BA (Hons), PGCE - English

Mrs A Nand-Lal MA, BA (Hons), PGCE - Spanish & Modern Foreign Languages

Mr P Neethling BA, B Hons, BEd - CISCO Academy

Miss M Parry BSc (Hons) - Science

Miss A Phillips BSc, PGCE - Biology

Ms A Peng MA, BA - EFL

Mr R Pool BA (Hons) - Geography

Mrs C Pritchard BA (Hons), MFA, PGCE - Art & Design

Mrs L Richardson BA (Hons), PGCE - English

Miss J Scanlon BA (Hons), DTLLS - Access Centre

Mrs E Simpson B.Eng (Hons), MPhil (Eng), PGCE, Cert Ed - Woodwork & Physics Mr J Stafford BA (Hons), PGCE - Junior School

Miss B Swait BSc (Hons), PGCE - Outdoors Education

Mr A Wright BA (Hons), QTS -Technology/Engineering

Mrs E Zentner BSc(Hons), PGDE, QTS, MA Ed - Geography

#### **Teaching Assistants**

Mrs. J Abel

Mrs P M Adams

Mrs A Amos

Mrs K Barber BEd (Hons)

Ms C Boakes – temporary Miss S Buffin NVQ2

Mrs G Egginton

Mr S Jones

Mrs J Larner HNC

Mrs G McCabe

Mrs K Morris BTEC SpLD

Mr J Oliver – temporary

Miss A Palmer

Mrs S Pool

Miss A Price

Miss K Reeve-Black BA, MA, PGCE

Mrs S Rogers

Mrs A Stephens

Miss H Till

Mrs D Webb NVQ3

#### Technicians

Mrs C Clough MSc

Mrs L Prudden BTech

#### Farm

Miss J Parkes BSc (Hons)

Mr P Radley

#### **House Staff**

Mr J Wood House Parent Senior Boys

Mr A Lister Assistant House Parent and Teacher of Outdoor Education

Mrs N Scriven School Nurse and Assistant House Parent RGN

Mrs P Stagg Assistant House Parent Senior Boys

Mr R Starr House Parent

Mrs N Starr House Parent

Mrs P Tromans Assistant House Parent Girls BA (Hons)

Ms R Wales House Parent

Mr A Webb Assistant House Parent

#### **Matron**

Mrs E Roberts

Ms C Henney Pastoral Matron

#### **Medical Staff**

Mrs A Carr SEN-RGN, ENB

Mrs N Scriven School Nurse and Assistant House Parent RGN

#### Administrative Staff

Mr J Clarke IT Manager

Mrs S Denman Headmaster's Secretary

Mrs C Dixon Registrar

Mrs G Doyle ACIM Marketing

Mrs T Leggetter ACIPD Personnel

Mrs Y MacMillan Personnel Assistant

Mrs D Milner Data Manager

Mrs C Smallwood Receptionist/Clerical Assistant

Miss E Strong Marketing Clerical Assistant

#### Maintenance Staff

Mr C Iddles Clerk of Works

Mr P Griffiths

Mr N Smith

#### **Accommodation Services**

Mr M Taylor Accommodation Services Manager

Miss O Ďa Silva

Mrs R Hawthorne

Mr J Main

Miss L McTear

Miss D Shields

#### Catering Staff

Mrs L Handy Chef Manager

Miss M Baldwin

Mrs S Bartlet

Ms J Blackford

Mr C Butler Head Chef

Mr M Frost

Mrs C Davies

Mr M Griffiths

Mrs D McVicker

Ms J Vilela

#### Visitng Professionals

Counsellor: Mrs E Hawkes (Teens in Crisis)

Dyslexia Tutor: Mrs C Forster, Cert Ed

Speech Therapist: Mrs A Kemp, BSc

Speech Therapist: Mrs S Stockton Reg. MRCSLT Speech Therapist: Miss H Walker, BSc



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