

JULY 2007



BEAUCHAMP MIDDLE SCHOOL

BEAUCHAMP BUGGLE

Together we will work for excellence

Headlines

Mrs S Ellis

As this school year draws to a close, we are preparing to say goodbye to our Year 8s as they move on to Upper School. Everyone at Beauchamp wishes them continued happiness and success.

Beauchamp itself will be increasing to our capacity of 20 classes in September, with the roll rising to around 550. This is one sign of the success the school is able to celebrate as, indeed, are this Summer's SATs results. Pupils in year 6 as well as their teachers and parents can feel very proud of the results:

Eng level 4+	84.8%	level 5
	33.1%	
Maths	84.2%	
	34.5%	
Science	92%	
	43.8%	

These results confirm a pleasing trend towards higher levels of attainment and we look forward to comparing our performance with the national and local figures when they are available.

Everyone involved knows how much hard work goes into helping the children to do their very best and I would like to thank you all.

Gifted and Talented

Selected pupils spent a day at either the University of Bedfordshire or Bedford College, participating in workshops for sports, electrical installation, Spanish or carpentry. All pupils enjoyed the day's activities and the opportunity to join with their peers from other schools.

Mrs R Pearson

STAFFING CHANGES

It is always sad to say goodbye to members of the staff team when they leave. Mrs Pearson is taking early retirement after 32 years of teaching, all at Beauchamp and Parkwood as it once was. Mr Layman, Mrs Tansey and Mrs Carrington Wright are all finishing work. Miss Chico is moving to teach at St Thomas More Upper School, so many ex Beauchamp pupils will continue to be taught by her. Our caretaker, Mr Bird is also moving to a new post. Every one of them has shown great dedication, has made a special contribution to the school and will be missed.

Y7 Healthy Lunch Competition

Bedford hospital ran a competition to promote healthy packed lunches in schools. Y7 pupils who participated had their lunches monitored and were awarded points. Completed cards were put into a draw. Several Beauchamp pupils won prizes: Annie Freestone, Bethan Gayter, Melissa Maddix and Damai Clouden

Sports Day 2007

After much worrying that our annual sports extravaganza was going to be hit by bad weather, we were delighted to be able to go ahead with the planned two days of events with only one morning hurdle event being cancelled. As always, races were keenly contested and it was great to see all participants cheered on by their house colleagues, parents and house captains. In a change with our usual pattern, this year, the winner of each event was given their medal at the finishing line, making them very proud. Kestrels House won the Sports Day trophy. Thanks go to Miss Chico, Mr Thompson and Mrs Hogg for their organisation of the events.

A final house event, the tug of war is always held on the last day of term. At its completion the overall house events cup will be awarded.

School Lunches

As you will recall schools meals will no longer be provided by Scholarest as from September. The new company in charge will be Eden Foods who won the contract via a tendering process. I am pleased to say that the meal price will remain at £1.70.

Scheherezade

Many of you will have experienced the drama and excitement of this year's school performance, Scheherezade for yourselves. Anyone unable to attend missed a truly spellbinding mixture of singing, dancing and acting on a beautifully set stage, with sumptuous costumes. Performing over three nights, the children captivated the audiences, provoking laughter, a few tears, applause, cheers and a standing ovation. One parent was even heard to comment that it was the best performance they had ever attended. A big thank you goes to all the children and staff involved but most particularly to Mrs Knight, Ms Carr and Mrs Walmsley for such a inspired choice of content.

Parent Teacher Association

Thanks go to a small but very dedicated band of volunteers who have worked tirelessly for the good of the school. Particular thanks go to two ladies who are stepping down this year, namely Gill Haywood and Debbie McGrorey.

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French Trips

I am pleased to give you advanced notice of two French trips that Mrs Mitchell has kindly organised for next year. Year 6 will have the opportunity to go on a day trip to Boulogne in October and Year 7 will be offered several days' stay in a chateau in Normandy during the Summer Term. Please watch out for letters coming home about these trips early next year.

Sports Achievements

In a recent Sports Commendations assembly pupils and staff were amazed by the sheer numbers of pupils who were mentioned on the roll of honour because of their participation in sporting clubs and/or representative teams. In an era when we hear so much about the need to ensure children have adequate sports and activities opportunities at school, we can be proud of the range of activities on offer and the levels of participation. Sport at Beauchamp has ended on a superb note with the cricket team becoming County Champions last Friday. Well done boys and thank you to Mr Thompson for his coaching.

Holiday club

Beauchamp holiday club will be running from 23rd July until 24th August, offering activities from 8:30 to 5:30. Half a day costs £8.25 and a full day £16. For details phone 01234 300900 or 07875810715 out of school hours.

Attendance

Every Beauchamp pupil knows how highly we value excellent attendance and its contribution to the quality of learning. We regularly have classes with 100% as their weekly total and many individuals who score 100% over one, two or three terms. It is, therefore, very disappointing to report that we have not met our target this year and have 30 pupils with below 85% attendance for the year. They will be meeting with an education welfare officer, with their parent, early next term.



Goodbye and Good Luck to Year 8

If someone was to ask me what I would remember about the Leavers of 2007, I would hope that they had twenty minutes to spare! For the Year 8's who leave us on Friday have contributed many ideas, initiatives in a diverse and unique way during their four years at Beauchamp. I will remember those who have become SSC mentors having successfully looked and changed their own behaviour. The tuck shop group, who have very successfully planned, launched and maintained the healthy tuck shop – Alan Sugar, watch out. The achievements of so many Level 7's in our recent QCA tests for Maths, English and Science. Our help at our feeder lower schools in Art and Sport. Of course I can not forget our sporting success on the cricket field (County Champions, Hurrah!!) And on the rounders pitch where we remain unbeaten and league winners. We are also unbeaten on the netball court, winners of that league too. On Friday we finally won the Krypton Challenge against the other Bedford middle schools. Eight years of finishing second has been replaced with gold! Diversity, talent and an extremely proud Leader of Learning! I wish all of my Year 8's the greatest of luck for the future. I have no doubt that they will be assets to their various upper schools and we will continue to hear positive news about you all.

Miss Dickson