



# our news

*Encouraging the Pursuit of Excellence*

## 'TOAD'



Photographs courtesy of Mrs Sue Getting



**This year's junior production was a version of 'Wind in the Willows' written and directed by Adrian Schoeberl.**

The two performances were enthusiastically received by full houses. A cast of seventy hard working and talented children brought Kenneth Grahame's delightful story to life with a combination of good acting skills and several songs based loosely on famous rock tunes.

The four main characters; Toad (Marcus Underwood), Mole (Arthur Getting), Ratty (Millie Gibbons) and Badger (Imogen Thomas) produced mature acting performances and took it in turns to steal the show. Credit must also go to Freddie Green, who played the judge perfectly. A whole-hearted commitment to their characters had the audience laughing in the aisles as they witnessed Toad's despair and his friends' sorrow at the cruelties of life.

Final mention must be made of the excellent musical content of the show, led by Rob Rogers. The 'Rock Band' (pictured) consisted of Thomas Monaghan (lead guitar), Ralph Taylor (drums), George Heldreich (bass guitar) and Bertie Southworth (keyboards). The standard of their playing was first class and complemented the show perfectly.

## 13+ SCHOLARSHIP SUCCESS

**Twelve Brandeston Hall pupils were recognised for their excellence in the recent 13+ Scholarships to Framlingham College.**

Awards were made across a range of subjects with Brandeston providing strong candidates in all areas. Nicholas Bailey, Alexandra Holland, Sebastian Treacy and Jack Walton gained awards in the Open Academic scholarship. Jack was also recognised for his excellence in Science, as were Charles Green and Jonathan Watt. Katherine Dunham, Emily Heldreich, Sophie Lawson and Saffron Wilford gained awards for Music with Molly Drnec and Cressida Sowerbutts having success in the field of Drama. The group is pictured here along with continuation scholars Georgia Scott, Callum Anthony and Amanda Birch. We have a large group of students moving up to the senior school this year, which is a reflection of the exciting developments happening at the College, orchestrated by the new Headmaster, Mr Paul Taylor. Well done to all the candidates.



## Junior Mathematics Challenge 2010

Brandeston Hall entered their top sets in Years 7 and 8 into the Leeds University Junior Maths Challenge, which had over 240,000 entrants nationally. Overall, we achieved 3 gold (Nicholas Bailey, Sebastian Treacy, Jack Walton), 1 silver (Georgia Scott) and 9 bronze awards (Amanda Birch, Thomas Easey, Charlie Green, Alex Holland, Freddie Howarth, Tomas Kacur, Jonathan Watt, Lilie Waring and Georgia Weston).

Special congratulations go to Sebastian (pictured) who scored the highest mark that any pupil has achieved at Brandeston for over five years, and as a result was among the top 1,000 students invited to participate in the Junior Mathematical Olympiad Challenge, which is an outstanding achievement!



## Forthcoming Events

*Open Mornings at Brandeston Hall*  
*Our Nursery 'Little Bears at Brandeston Hall' and Pre-Prep*  
9.30am, Friday 17th September

*Whole School*  
9.30am, Saturday 18th September  
If you would like to attend please contact Mrs Lucy Bryanton

*Holiday Activities*  
Football 17th & 18th August  
Swimming 9th - 13th and 16th - 20th August  
Netball, Hockey and Rugby Academies  
23rd & 24th and 26th & 27th August  
Further details can be found under Enterprises on the website

**Brandeston's 'Excellent' ISI Inspection - see College section for more details**

Telephone 01728 685331 or visit [www.framlingham.suffolk.sch.uk](http://www.framlingham.suffolk.sch.uk)



## The Great Outdoors



**The pupils of Year 3 and 4 were excited to learn that there would be an opportunity to experience the great outdoors in the grounds of Brandeston Hall, with Year 4 staying on to camp.**

After an exhausting game of rounders, a barbecue supper was devoured by

some very hungry children. Erecting tents in readiness for the big night proved an adventure in itself and, as Year 3 headed home, the remaining pupils settled down to enjoy a roaring campfire, hot chocolate and marshmallows. Sleep was eventually achieved and the sound of Mother Nature's nightly chorus descended on the camp.

The following morning came all too bright and far too early, but a hearty breakfast was enjoyed by all before the trek across fields to Framlingham College to enjoy a refreshing swim. By late afternoon some very tired youngsters were handed over to a particularly 'refreshed' looking party of parents! Roll out the tents next year!



## Book Week 2010



There was a fantastic start to Book Week, with many pupils dressing up as characters from 'Alice in Wonderland' and a total of £170 was raised for Book Aid, a charity which supports reading in developing countries.

Local storyteller Irene Ridley visited again with 'George' the dancing puppet and pupils from the Nursery up to Year 7 listened captivated. A reading wall was created in the long corridor, with each brick showing the title of a book that a child or member of staff had read or heard during the week. This was followed by a creative writing competition for Years 3 to 7.



L-R Emma Grose, Liberty Salsby, Martha Lawrence and India Ball

## Pre-Prep Activities

### Baking warms up an Icy Morning

Year 1 visited Hollytrees Museum in Colchester, which explores 300 years of history through hands-on exhibits. Pupils explored homes from the past for their history work and dressed in Victorian costumes. They successfully completed the challenge to make a circuit to light up a bulb and also to design and make their own switch.



## Around the World in Six Weeks

Children in the Reception class were given the topic 'Around the World' and began by thinking about England and celebrated St George's Day with various activities. On the Queen's birthday they thought about what gift they would take if they met her, there were some interesting ideas from tiaras to cake and the work was presented to Buckingham Palace. The pupils were delighted to receive a letter from 'The Queen', written on her behalf by Mrs Philippa de Pass, Lady-in-Waiting. Further 'travels' took the boys and girls to the African plains before heading off to the Australian Outback. A jungle was created in the classroom, musical instruments were made, new foods were tasted and traditional songs were learned.





## Boarding at Brandeston

Since the last newsletter the boarders have been involved in a wide range of activities and events. Towards the end of the spring term we held our annual themed dinner. This time it was the turn of the girls at Princess Alice House to host the evening, which was simply called 'The Tartan Dinner'. With a truly Scottish flavour from 'Haggis, neeps and tatties' to country dancing, accompanied by an accordion player, it was a spectacular evening.



Hugh Alabaster and Jessie go Scottish dancing



Some of the activities undertaken recently have included orienteering at the College followed by 'fun in the sprinklers', baking with Mrs Hamilton (pictured) and trips to the East Anglian Game Fair and the Weird and Wonderful Wood which held demonstrations, displays and workshops.



## A Golden Night at Brandeston



**Brandeston Hall hosted 'The Hollywood Ball' earlier this term and it proved to be an overwhelming success.**

Mrs Myers-Allen organised the event with help from Mr and Mrs Wilson and other willing volunteers. A total of 144 glamorous guests arrived at the Rowley Hall for a superb evening of entertainment. The dance floor and band were guarded by two gigantic 'Oscar' statues surrounded by plants and flowers kindly provided by John Woods Nurseries. Guests were wined and dined as the band played and Claire Weston sang against a backdrop of movie clips and Hollywood stars.

An auction and raffle took place with prizes ranging from a two week Florida rental to the Headmaster's parking space for a term.

With encouragement from auctioneer and parent, Mr Mark Donsworth, over £6,000 was raised for the EACH Treehouse Appeal, thanks to the generosity of parents, governors and staff.



Jolyon Summers votes

## General Election Fever

On May 6th 2010 pupils in Years 5 to 8 went to the polls to vote in their own version of the General Election. They had found out about the electoral system and the main policies of the parties in their PSHE lessons and were keen to cast their votes. The Rowley Hall became our Polling Station, the prefects were the election officials, handing out the ballot papers and then acting as tellers at the count. The Conservative Party had a landslide victory - no doubt something David Cameron would have preferred across the rest of the UK!

## NEWS IN BRIEF



### Meet the Saxons at Brandeston!

On Tuesday 25th May, pupils in Years 5 and 7 were able to further their studies of Saxon culture when the Ealdfaeder re-enactment group came to visit in the guise of two authentically dressed characters. Aethelgar, which means 'Proud Spear' and Edwin 'Loyal friend' or Mr Schoeberl, Head of History, as he is otherwise known, displayed everyday artefacts for examination. The children listened to an original story from this period and learned about the 'futhork' runes used instead of an alphabet by the Saxons.

Pupils took part in a dramatic reconstruction of King Harold's shield wall at Hastings, complete with authentic shields, while others portrayed William the Conqueror's cavalry, who were victorious at Senlac Hill on October 14th 1066.

The visit concluded with a display of weapons and a demonstration of battle skills used during the reign of King Raedwald who ruled East Angles in the early 7th century.

### Charity Fundraising

This term pupils have been busy raising money for a number of charities. Their endeavours included baking, selling and eating cakes, which also raised money for the EACH Treehouse appeal. Year 7 organised a school disco and raised £463, which was split equally between Macmillan Cancer Support and Help for Heroes. On Friday before half term, great fun was had with a sponsored run and walk to support the work of UNICEF in Haiti.



L-R Kit Hollingsworth, Grace Hicks, Lucy Rowell and Grace Trembath raise funds for UNICEF



# Sports Report



1st XI - Brandon Langridge congratulates Ralph Taylor

## Cricket Stars

It has been an excellent start to the cricketing term at Brandeston. The 1st XI, who lost only once in 2008 and were unbeaten in 2009, have won 4 of their first 6 games, whilst in the younger age groups many wins and runs are being recorded by a number of aspiring young cricketers.

None more so than with Kent Under 11 Captain, Ralph Taylor, who scored a classic 106 not out against Town Close House, which included 14 fours. Ralph is the fourth Brandeston Hall pupil to score a century in the last three years and is currently averaging 157.5!

On the county front Oliver Yeatts and Toby Warner have represented the Suffolk Under 12 team, with Jack Hobbs competing for the Under 10s.



Year 5 enjoy a trip to Lords

## Commonwealth Decathlon Champion Inspires Brandeston's Athletes



The season started with a visit by **Dean Macey, current Commonwealth Decathlon Champion** (see above).

Dean spoke about his career and answered some searching questions from our sports scholars. After this inspirational visit our athletes have produced some very encouraging results.

Twenty pupils competed at the Suffolk Athletics Championships and returned with a multitude of personal bests and medals. The most notable of which were the gold medals and county

titles for George Coulson (Under 15 Shot), George Goodin (Under 13 High Jump) and Oliver King in the (Under 15 Javelin) - see picture L-R. Already this season records have been smashed; Jolyon and Lottie Summers broke the 800m records for their age groups during the Gresham's athletics meeting and the brother and sister act was back in action at the East of England Championships, where Lottie set a new school record for the 1500m and Joylon equalled his 800m at the same time as qualifying for the National Finals in Birmingham. No mean feat when you realise he was running against boys a year older.



## 'Top Individual School' award 2010

At the recent AGM of the Suffolk Lawn Tennis Association, Brandeston Hall picked up the prestigious 'Top Individual School' award.

Senior Coach, Trevor Wright, was thrilled that the determination and hard work of the players had paid off. This was also the icing on the cake for Florence as she had already won the Suffolk U11 Doubles and Singles title earlier in the year.



Clockwise L-R Trevor Wright, Amanda Birch, Lottie Summers, Kit and Florence McCausland, India Ball and William Simpson

In 2010 the summer term been packed with team tennis fixtures in all age groups for both schools and Framlingham College Tennis Club. At the time of writing the following teams have qualified for the schools' country finals:

U13A and B girls, U11A boys, U10A Mini Tennis Orange girls and boys, U10B Mini Tennis Orange mixed and U8 Mini Tennis Red girls. The U10A Mini Tennis Orange mixed and U8 Mini Tennis Red boys both have their qualifying rounds still to play, so plenty of excitement to come before the end of term. *Best of luck to you all.*

## Brandeston Hall Girls Unbeatable

The Brandeston Hall Under 9 Girls' hockey team have an unbeaten run that stretches back to February 2009.

The girls maintained their record last season with a fantastic performance at the annual Brandeston Hall tournament, which is the largest of its kind in the region, and includes 8 of the strongest hockey playing schools in the county. The team, *India Ball, Jemima Crowley, Evie Hall, Leah Keane, Martha Lawrence, Amy Saville, Liberty Salsby, Lottie Summers* and goalkeeper *Lucy Westmacott*, beat Culford School, The Abbey and Ipswich High to reach the final against Old Buckenham Hall where the girls won 3-0 in a decisive battle.

