

# Beaverwood School for Girls

## Summer Newsletter 2008



Thank you all once again for your continued support for your daughters and the School. May I take this opportunity to wish you a restful summer.

What a Washout!

*What happened to the summer - again!? We seem to have had more wet days this term than in the winter!*

*However, this doesn't seem to have dampened our spirit as the term has been frantically busy.*

Assessment & Reporting

*Much of the term has been consumed by examination, coursework and reports of one kind or another for most girls. My thanks to our Examinations Team led by Mrs Johnston, for coping so splendidly with the growing number of tests which need to be undertaken.*

*My thanks too, for the increasing amount of assessment data that Mrs Johnston deals with under Mr Handscombe's leadership. We are always refining and improving the way in which we approach this, ready to share computerised access with you in 2010.*

*We have also piloted an improved Record of Progress with Year 7. Parents, girls and staff are all very positive about this, so we will review it and develop it further for 2008-2009.*

Upper School News

*Our new Head Girl and her Deputies were elected at the end of April: Hayley Worf, Jade Kelly and Gabriella Wickes. They will be a lively and creative team with lots of good ideas - we have already*

*sampled Jade's contribution towards the 'Cluedo' charity event! I place on record, my thanks to the outgoing team: Anna Lewis, Charlotte Presland; Becky Tume and Vicky Harris and wish them well in their futures.*

*Years 11 & 13 both enjoyed quite and calm endings. As you are aware, Year 11 do not technically 'leave' until 30th June and we have gradually eroded the need for 'celebrations'. Sadly, this year, a few girls misbehaved in Sidcup, but not until late in the afternoon, having been dismissed from here at 12:50 p.m. We have made appropriate recompense in the community.*

*Year 10's World of Work Day, on 14th May, was the usual success with many exciting activities on offer. Several contributions included the Police and the Army. My thanks to Ms Brooks for co-ordinating this event.*

Year 8 Camp 2008



*Miss Nicholson said: "The first ever Beaverwood Year 8 Camp went without a hitch! Over the two weekends, 110 students and 16 staff spent two days camping, and completing different outdoor*

*activities. The students and staff got to try zipwire, rock-climbing, archery and many other activities. All of the students helped prepare food for the entire group, maintain the campsite and fire without a single complaint. Blackland Farm staff commented on how polite, friendly and helpful the students at Beaverwood are. Well done and thank you to everyone involved!"*



Year 9 Transition Activities

*Rockingham Trip: On 1st July, 40 students and four staff went to the Maths, Science and Engineering show at Rockingham, organised by the Learning Grid. Despite an early start, the students were keen and enthusiastic and enjoyed the day. We now have some prospective forensic scientists, car designers and robot scientists in school! Although I would not let any of them near an oilfield as we might run out of energy before they manage to get any out of the ground!*

*Year 9 Apprentice Day: After their SATs examinations, Year 9 spent a couple of weeks working in their Maths lessons on setting up a prospective business. Their ideas were varied, and we obviously have some budding entrepreneurs. On 14th July, they spent the day developing their ideas and presenting them to the rest of the Year group. The*

four best teams, voted for by their peers, then went forward into the 'Dragon's Den' to face a team of senior teachers. The winners were Tutti Frutti, who planned to sell various types of fresh fruit drinks. Well done girls - it was a very successful day.

#### Sporting Heroes

Huge congratulations to Lauren Payne, Emma Selvey and Charlotte Middlemiss for obtaining medals in the London Youth Games, where Lauren also achieved a personal best.

We are to be truly thankful that the sun at last shone for Sports Day. The girls really participated well, as competitors and spectators, with some exciting races (including the Sixth Form trouncing the staff in a friendly relay)

Several girls won Jack Petchey Foundation Awards for Dance. They are: Grace Law, Hannah Cahill, Charlie-Beau Keepence, Georgia Alton, Elizabeth Warner, Rebecca Joyce, Alex O'Neill, Fleur Rozan and Jessica Roblett.

Local primary schools also came into school for a dance festival, led by the CSDLA girls in Year 10.

#### Making Music

The Summer Recital was a popular pleasure with over 80 girls participating in the Choirs, Band and as soloists. The Hall was packed with an enthusiastic and supportive audience of VIPs, friends and family who all thoroughly enjoyed the evening. Mr Rutter and the Music Departments are to be thanked for this splendid event.

#### A Ministerial Visit

We were delighted to welcome Jim Knight, the Minister of State for Schools & Learning, on 26th June 2008, in order to perform the opening ceremony for our new 14-19 Suite. Jim spoke highly of the school, having grown up in Chislehurst, he knew it well!



#### Parting is Such Sweet Sorrow

Very few staff are moving on this year, but there are two particularly special people to thank and give our best wishes. These are Mrs Cotton and Mrs H Scott. Both teachers have been at Beaverwood for over 20 years, giving your daughters long and loyal service. We wish them well for their futures as they move to the South Coast and to Derbyshire.

In addition, I thank:

- ✘ Ms Borthwick, who returns to Canada;
- ✘ Miss Cornforth, who changes career;
- ✘ Mr Fox, who changes career;
- ✘ Ms Andrews who consolidates her Academic Peer Tutor project elsewhere;
- ✘ Mr Handscombe, Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for Technology College, who leaves us after a relatively short period, to gain promotion to Deputy Head at Bexley Grammar School. We thank him for his leadership of this important area of the school, in particular ensuring that all teaching

areas are equipped with Interactive Whiteboards and that our Virtual Learning Environment is now developing well.

In September, we welcome:

- ✘ Miss Osborne, Miss Alexander, Miss Ardizzone & Ms Pham in English;
- ✘ Mr White in Geography;
- ✘ Miss Mensah in Social Studies;
- ✘ Miss Darlington as Head of Business Studies;
- ✘ Ms Wilson-Hooper as Assistant Headteacher (Specialist College).

There are some internal promotions to celebrate too:

- ✘ Mr Rutter as Acting Assistant Headteacher overseeing the House & Enhancement Days;
- ✘ Mrs Harrison as Acting Head of Technology Faculty;
- ✘ Miss James as Key Stage 3 & Achievement Co-ordinator in Science.

I hope that you all have a sunny and restful break.

*KJ Raven*

Mrs K J Raven  
Headmistress



#### Last and First Days of Term

The last day of term is Friday, 18th July and will end at 12:30 p.m. **There will be no buses in the turning circle.**

The first day of term is **Thursday, 4th September**. There will be a staggered start, as follows:

**Year 7 and some of Year 13 arrive at 8:30 a.m.**

**Year 12 Enrolment: 8:30-11:30 a.m.**

**Years 8, 9, 10, 11 arrive and register at 11:40 a.m.**

**The rest of Year 13 arrive at 12:00 p.m.**

