



# Bramley School & Nursery

A leading independent prep school for girls aged 3-11

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## *The Bramley Blog*

Summer 2011 • Issue 3

As we draw a close to our academic year for 2010-11, I can reflect on another fantastically busy year as the School has gone from strength to strength. I would like to congratulate each and every one of you for participating so enthusiastically throughout the year; from the glorious May Pageant to ballet shows, trips, sporting success and academic achievements. I would like to take this opportunity to say how proud we are of the girls in Tops as they leave for pastures new and wish them every success as they move on for the next chapter in their educational lives.

Our second half to the summer term has been wonderfully busy with our annual Sports Day for Years 1-6 and the introduction of a new Sports Day for our Little Bramley and Reception girls, where the weather held up beautifully, to our fantastic school production of *Romeo & Juliet* which so many of you came to experience. I hope you enjoy reading what the girls and staff have been up to this second half of term. Finally, I would like to close with wishing everyone a well earned and restful summer break and we look forward to seeing you all in the new academic year on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September.

*Mrs Paula Burgess, Headmistress*



Year 3 Releasing Butterflies

This year's Prep school production was *Romeo & Juliet* and all girls from Years 3-6 were involved. Under the expert guidance of Mrs Phillips, Mrs Coombes and Mr Morton, the girls were well rehearsed and choreographed, not to mention dressed in costumes of the era to put on fantastic performances that delighted their audiences.



## Being Part of *Romeo & Juliet*

*The first thing I want to talk about is smiling. I smile the moment I'm on the stage, I can't help it, I'm just urging to do it!*

*The second thing I want to say is about choosing who was who in the play. Some of us were policemen – we were dying to see our scripts and I realised I had six lines! I can't wait until next year's play (I was born to be an actress!!)*  
Yzanne Pepper



*I was a villager, a house worker and a policeman. I enjoyed being the policeman the best as I had my chance to speak and I heard my voice booming on the stage. I felt really alive when I got into my costume and wasn't happy when all the shows were over!*

Amy Hardman

*I was a villager, a servant and an officer of the watch. My favourite bit is the song where the Prince banishes Romeo for killing Tybalt who killed Mercutio who is Romeo's best friend. I cried when I watched the fight. Tybalt was Juliet's cousin – imagine if your cousin was killed by your husband!*  
Georgina Fogarty

*The thing I liked about 'Romeo & Juliet' was the light was shining on you and it felt like it was telling you that you had to do your best. When we were going on stage, I forgot my words but luckily I remembered them in time!*

Caitlin Ladell

*We played Hangman with Mrs Coombes and found out the play was 'Romeo & Juliet'! Then Mrs Phillips came in and said we would find out what we were the next day – it felt like it was the day before our birthday.*

Olivia Raymond

## SPORTS DAY 2011 – YEARS 1-6

The weather was glorious on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June and the girls were on top form. We had many personal bests – particular congratulations goes to Peggy Winterborn who ran the 400m in 1.285. The current record is 1.215. It was the first year that athletics rules have changed and there are two new distance races – 55m hurdles and the 75m sprint. Records were set this year by Rosie Odell for running 10.97 and Siana Dennis for 12.18 respectively. One school record was broken this year by Siana Dennis – she ran the 600m race in 2.20m. The previous record was set in 2008 with 2.25m by Saxon Pattenden so well done Siana!

Congratulations to the Crispin girls who, once again, were the champions for the Junior and Intermediate House competitions with 40 and 65 points respectively. Pippin just ‘pipped’ Russet to take the top spot in the Senior House results with 41 points. Thank you to everyone who helped make Sports Day such a success!

	First	Second
Year 1	Madison Ladell	Madeleine Pittman
Year 2	Anna Russell	Amelia Jones
Year 3	Peggy Winterborn	Maisie Greener
Year 4	Yzanne Pepper	Sofia Simioni
Year 5	Ruby Feshareki	Ella Worsfold & Gabi Shea
Year 6	Siana Dennis	Rhianna Hyde



## LITTLE BRAMLEY & RECEPTION SPORTS DAY & PICNIC

This is the first time Bramley has held a joint event and the whole school supported the girls in their team races. Olivia Westland, the joint School Games Captain, welcomed the parents and talked about the many sporting activities she has enjoyed at Bramley. It was a great experience to work together as a team and all the girls enjoyed receiving their badges from Mrs Burgess, whilst standing on the winning podium. However, the highlight of the morning for the girls was watching the mums and dads joining with their own team race. Well done to everyone who helped to make this such a successful event!



### House Rounders - Summer 2011

All the girls thoroughly enjoyed the competition this term especially with the added excitement of Sean helping with the coaching!

Years 5 & 6 - 1<sup>st</sup> Pippin (8 point), 2<sup>nd</sup> Russet (6 points) and 3<sup>rd</sup> Crispin (4 points)

Years 3 & 4 - 1<sup>st</sup> Crispin and Russet (6 points each) and 3<sup>rd</sup> Pippin (5 points)

Year 2 - 1<sup>st</sup> Crispin (10 points), 2<sup>nd</sup> Pippin (5 points) and 3<sup>rd</sup> Russet (2 points)

Year 1 - 1<sup>st</sup> Russet (10 points), 2<sup>nd</sup> Crispin (6 points) and 3<sup>rd</sup> Pippin (2 points)

Well done to all the girls for their encouragement and determination in this year's competition! The overall results are: 1<sup>st</sup> Crispin with 26 points (who receive the Rounders Cup), 2<sup>nd</sup> Russet with 24 points and 3<sup>rd</sup> Pippin with 20 points.

Meanwhile, congratulations to Crispin who won the House Tennis. Russet came second while Pippin came third.



## GOODBYE & THANK YOU!

Mrs Kathryn Thompson started teaching at Bramley in January 1988 and has led the learning and teaching of mathematics throughout the School for nearly 24 years. She has been an outstanding teacher who has always ensured that every girl has achieved her very best. Over the years, Mrs Thompson has organised Mathematics Weeks, arranged school visits and has overseen many a scoreboard for Sports Day. In addition, she has been a dedicated form teacher and mentor.



Mrs Rosalie Taylor began teaching at Bramley in 1985 and was initially appointed as Head of PE which she taught to all the year groups in the School. Latterly, Mrs Taylor undertook training as a SENCO (special needs teacher) and has supported a number of girls in a way that has helped them to reach their full potential. We are very grateful to Mrs Taylor as she has always fully supported school functions including residential visits which could not have taken place without her. She has also combined her SENCO role with coaching netball and rounders and has arranged and accompanied many a girl to matches and tournaments. Her skills will be greatly missed.



Miss Vicki Gasston has been with the School for only a year but what an impact she has made! She has ably taken on the role of Acting Head of PE whilst Mrs Baxter took her maternity leave. As well as doing a terrific job, Miss Gasston has introduced us all to the art of Kuk Sool Won, the traditional Korean Martial Arts system, in which she is a Black Belt instructor. Recently, Miss Gasston made a name for herself at the Spanish Martial Arts Competition winning three Golds and three Silvers while at the European Championships in June, she won three Golds, one Silver and her club, Barker Martial Arts, was ranked third in the whole of Europe. Some of you will already know that Miss Gasston is the reigning World Champion in Kuk Sool Won after winning the title in America last year.



**Congratulations to Mrs Blake who has been promoted to a Senior Leadership position as Head of Pupil Progress and Achievement. Mrs Blake will be taking on the Head of Mathematics post in September and will continue to teach VR and non-VR. Mrs Blake will be a great asset to the Senior Leadership team.**

### Year 1 Practical Science

On Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, Year 1 visited the park in Howard Close to explore the use of forces. The girls, who were finding out about the pushes and pulls at the park, worked in pairs discussing how to make the equipment move, whether they could change the direction of the move, if they could make it move fast or slow and what type of movement it was. Thank you to Mrs Tejura and Mrs Hamilton for accompanying Mrs Nunn and Year 1.

### Russet Sports Afternoon

by Kirsty Hawker, Russet House Captain  
Russet House held its fundraising day on 1<sup>st</sup> July with a fun sports day. There were sack races, skipping races and egg and spoon races. We raised £244 for the PHASE charity which helps deliver medical aid to remote villages around Nepal. Thank you also to Amy Hardman and Alice Heath who organised a 'Name The Bear' competition – the winners were Elizabeth Mitchell and Peggy Winterborn.

### Year 1 Visit to St Peter's Church

The girls met with Reverend Marsh at St Peter's Church in Walton-on-the-Hill on 14<sup>th</sup> June and learnt all about the different features within a church. Everyone had a go at playing the organ and ringing the bells. Reverend Marsh also allowed the girls to try on many of the different robes she wears.

### Year 5 Review of English Extension Club

by Ruby Feshareki & Ella Worsfold  
English Extension Club has been really fun to take part in. We have played different word games and even invented some words ourselves! We have also debated issues that we feel strongly about including the amount of homework we receive, school uniforms and whether mixed or single sex schools are better.

## Years 1 & 2 Play *Red Riding Hood*



## FOCUS ON...Tops' Treat

After 24 years at Bramley, I am not sure that I want to work out how many Tops' Treats I have now organised. In my early years there was no special day out for the Leavers but once introduced it became a firm favourite and a permanent feature of the Bramley calendar. It has always been a fun and relaxing time for all and this year was no exception...



The day started at 9:30am as we travelled by car to Village Ceramics in Cheam. There, the girls took their time to choose and decorate a variety of pots. Georgia and Kirsty chose very attractive trinket boxes and Lottie, obviously in search of value for money, discovered a pig that came with her four piglets! The rest chose various plates - many used the Bramley logo and signed the class names to create a lovely memento of their time together.



At lunchtime, it was warm and sunny so we were able to have a picnic in Nonsuch Park as planned. Usually the girls race around at this point but this year I think that exhaustion had already begun to set in after the Tops' weekend away camping!

Charrington Bowl was fun. As usual, there were a variety of techniques for getting the bowling ball down the alley. We had four different winners - Kirsty, Isobel and Olivia all scored over 100 and Lottie scored 97, only just beating Rosie with 95 and Siana with 94. Obviously an exciting and nail-biting end to the day! Oh, and we won't mention the raspberry slush puppies that turned everyone's tongues blue!

Thank you to Mrs McSharry and Mrs Machen who provided not only essential transport but also wisdom and good company. I will miss many things about teaching at Bramley. Being the Tops' form teacher has been a privilege and a pleasure for many years and I am glad that this last Tops' Treat was a good day to remember.

*Kathryn Thompson*

The parents of Tops have purchased, for the School, a fabulous and beautiful radio-controlled clock which is positioned on the side of the School in the courtyard. The clock is a lovely memento of the Tops leavers and is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

## FOCUS ON...Tops' Treat

*I really enjoyed the pottery. I bought a plate and I painted it with the Bramley colours and wrote the Bramley Leavers on it. I also won the first game of bowling – yay! Isobel Galloway*

*I enjoyed every part of our Tops' treat. When we went to paint pottery, I bought a plate and it actually turned out nice! I won one game of bowling- I thought I was rubbish at it! Olivia Westland*

*I really enjoyed the pottery painting as I got to take my pig and piglets home and I loved the bowling because I won! Lottie Coley*

*I really enjoyed the bowling but I didn't win! Kate Sharpe*

*I really enjoyed the pottery painting and the picnic in the park. Rosie Odell*

*Painting the pottery was fun! Kirsty Hawker*

*The bowling was fantastic – everyone was so joyful and competitive! Rhianna Hyde*

*I enjoyed every bit of it especially when I got a strike in the bowling! Ella McSharry*

*I really enjoyed the pottery painting and the bowling. The only thing wrong was I dropped a bowling ball on my toe! Siana Dennis*

*I really enjoyed painting the pottery – it was great fun! Laura Codd*

*I really liked the pottery painting – I painted a box whilst others painted plates. Georgia Curry*



### Fishbourne Roman Palace by Mrs Blake

On Wednesday 13th July, Lovers visited Fishbourne Roman Palace accompanied by myself and Mrs Hamilton. Bramley was lucky enough to be the only school there! The girls saw an audio-visual presentation of how the palace remains were discovered and what it might have looked like in Roman times. Then they visited the formal gardens followed by the superb mosaic floors of the former East Wing of the Palace. After a delicious packed lunch, the girls enjoyed a workshop where they tried out various activities that the Romans might have done, such as spinning wool, writing in wax, making mosaics, etc. The girls were a credit to the School and I thoroughly enjoyed my last History trip as Head of Humanities.



**Years 2 & 3 to Juniper Hall**  
 The girls experienced an amazing two day adventure to Juniper Hall. They scaled the heights of a huge hill, discovered what mammals live in the woodland, learnt about camouflage by hunting for worms, built shelters, enjoyed picnic lunches and entertained with tribal dances. Thank you to everyone who helped make this visit such a resounding success!



Girls from Prep have been using their knowledge of *Romeo & Juliet* to enter a creative writing competition. Girls had to create a mini saga using just 50 words.

*Romeo loved Rosaline. Then he danced and fell for Juliet. They got married in secret. He killed Tybalt because Tybalt killed his friend. Prince banished Romeo, Juliet dearly missed him. She made a plan, she fake killed herself but didn't tell Romeo. Basically they were both heartbroken and killed themselves.*

**Gabrielle Shea**

*Once there was a girl, a boy and a baddy. The baddy imprisoned the girl. The boy loved the girl. He wanted to free her. The baddy duelled the boy. The boy was injured. He tried to free the girl but they were both killed. The baddie lived. The end!*

**Georgina Fogarty**

### Eco Art Competition

Well done to the following girls whose Eco Art entries have been selected for entry into the Reigate & Banstead Eco Art competition:  
 Gabi Shea, Ruby Feshareki, Alice Heath, Poppy Old, Sofia Simioni, Olivia Raymond, Isabel Webb, Abbie Pendower, Gracie Caterham-Ashford, Isabella Schenk, Anna Russell, Emily Baxter, Chloe Smith and Cerys Denny.

### Golden Boot Competition Winners!

It was a very successful Golden Boot challenge this year. Our winning year groups were Year 2 (Highest Green Change) and Loweres (Highest Class Green Average). Well done to Loweres and Tops who managed to achieve 100% green travel on several days. Individual mentions also go to :

Year 6	Laura Codd, Georgia Curry & Ella McSharry
Year 4	Tara Baker
Year 3	Amalie Bennett, Maisie Greener, Sophie Lawler, Nuala McNamara, Honor Morrison & Abbie Pendower
Year 1	Mili Greener & Chloe Smith
Reception	Anya Hamilton, Anna Morten, Maia Pendower
LB	Georgina Hamilton & Kate Morten

**Noah's Ark Assembly – Little Bramley & Reception**  
On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, Little Bramley and Reception performed their version of *Noah's Ark* to parents and friends. The girls performed beautifully and learnt their words and moves to produce a superb performance. Thank you to all the parents for helping with costumes and coming along to enjoy the show.



Our next  
**OPEN MORNINGS**  
Fri 14<sup>th</sup> October 2011  
Sat 15<sup>th</sup> October 2011  
10am – 12noon



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is a leading independent  
prep school for girls  
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## *Bramley in Brief...*

### Message from the Governors

We are pleased to inform you that we will be completing the purchase of the land adjoining our sports field over the summer holidays. This will allow us to dedicate some resources to improve the field and enable our girls to enjoy the space all year round.

### Gold Litter Free Award

Once again, Bramley has been awarded 'Gold' for our litter-free and well-presented school. Ella McSharry and Georgia Curry (our Heads of School Council) visited Reigate & Banstead Borough Council on 1<sup>st</sup> July to be presented with the award.



### Sutton High U11 Versatility Netball Tournament

There will be a netball tournament for Tops and some Uppers on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2011 at Sutton High from 3:30pm to 6:30pm. We will leave Bramley at approximately 3pm. Please make sure you have returned your match slips to Mrs Baxter indicating whether you can help with lifts. Thank you.

### New Pop In Mornings

We will be introducing Pop In Mornings in 2012 when prospective families can just 'pop in' and see the School in action. These will be on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March, Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May and Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2012 from 10am until 12noon.