



Spotlight

The Newsletter of the Benjamin Britten Music Academy and Centre of Excellence in Mathematics

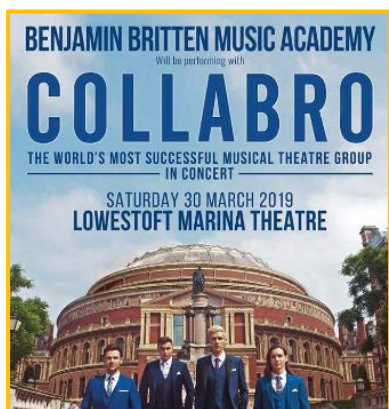
Edition No.26: Easter, 2019

Special Feature: The Britten School Choir & Collabro

On Saturday 30 March, the Britten School Choir performed at the Marina Theatre alongside 2014 Britain's Got Talent winners 'Collabro' (see below). The choir's average age is now younger than it has been previously and a number of the scholars had never sang in front of their parents in a living room before, let alone on stage with a professional tour and live band in front of a capacity audience. In between their performances, Collabro interviewed one of the choir members, Fearne Trigg (7AS), about what it was like being in the Benjamin Britten School Choir. She replied, *'it's like being in a family'*. Fearne was then asked which song from a musical she enjoyed the most, and in reply she sang a song from Matilda - a demanding solo piece which she executed with perfect pitch and aplomb. Fearne received a well-deserved round of applause from the audience, performers and support crew.

Throughout the event, the Britten Choir represented the school and our community in an extremely positive and enthusiastic manner. Their professionalism and focus was unwavering, and the unusual and unique things that make such a performance so challenging and rewarding were consummately taken in their stride.

At one point, special guest star Kerry Ellis (a famous West End performer), sang 'A Million Dreams' from The Greatest Showman and encouraged the crowd to sing along. Much of the audience sat passively, but the Britten Choir, sat near the back of the theatre, needed no further encouragement and sang along beautifully. Mr Morgan (music) stated, *'it was genuinely moving hearing them singing for the love of it and getting caught up in the occasion and transforming the feeling in the theatre from passivity to something far more transcendent'*. Mr Morgan extends his sincere thanks to all scholars, parents and colleagues who support music and arts performances at the school. This support enables every scholar who participates, and these 28 children in particular, to develop in stature and confidence and create memories they will enjoy for the rest of their lives. In the school's fortieth anniversary year, we have undoubtedly become the *'nest of singing birds'* that Benjamin Britten's life partner, Peter Pears, wished of our school back in 1978.



Benjamin Britten Music Academy and Centre of Excellence in Mathematics
Blyford Road
Lowestoft
Suffolk
NR32 4PZ

Tel: (01502) 582 312



Year Group News

Year 7: Form groups in Year 7 have spent the last term preparing and presenting assemblies to the year group on their chosen charity. This will culminate after the Easter break in a week of fundraising for their form charities. A variety of ideas have been suggested and it will no doubt prove a busy, yet thoroughly enjoyable week. In other news, a **cheque for £669.63, from donations raised from the school's Christmas Jumper Day in December**, was presented to a representative from the **East Coast Hospice Appeal** in a year assembly on 26 March. The cheque was presented by Head of Lower School, Mr George and will contribute to the fundraising efforts for the construction of a purpose-built, 10-bed hospice near the James Paget University Hospital in Gorleston.

On April 1, **the local drugs awareness charity 'Turning Point' gave an assembly** on the dangers of drug use and explained the side-effects of the most commonly used illegal and prescription drugs in society. Turning Point works closely with young people in the local community to help educate them about the risks associated with drug use and what to do if they feel that drug abuse is becoming a problem in their lives. Scholars were able to ask questions about the dangers of drugs to a representative from the charity and were warned about both the legal and physical consequences of drugs.

—Mr Challis (Head of Year), Mrs Reynolds & Mrs Mercer (Assistant Heads of Year).

Year 9: We have asked all Year 9 subject teachers to nominate two scholars per teaching group to win a subject award; these will be given for excellence in attitude to learning and progress.

Our Choices Evening on Wednesday 6 March was very well attended.

There are some important dates in that process which are as follows:

29 March 2019: Completed 'Choices' form returned to the Main School Office.

April to May 2019: After receiving a completed form, the year team will organise a series of 'dry-runs' to see what the best combination of subjects will be. Initially scholars will have an open choice, but will eventually have to select one subject from each option block. Sadly, some combinations will not be possible, notably where courses are over-subscribed or options need to be re-thought. In that case, the year team will talk to the individual scholar and their parents/carers to discuss the best possible solution.

Early July 2019: Choices confirmed.

Parents' evening on Thursday 21 March was also very well attended.

Indeed, it was heartening to see so many parents/carers taking the time to speak to subject teachers. School staff are always very happy to speak with parents/carers and it all helps to maintain a positive level of communication. If any parents should like to speak to any subject teachers, please contact the school; the year team will arrange a return call at the earliest possible convenience.

Fifty Year 9s are heading to Paris from Wednesday 3 July until Friday 5 July.

A brief itinerary of the trip is as follows:

3 July -Depart Benjamin Britten and travel to Dover by coach and then onwards to Calais by ferry. Upon arrival at Calais, scholars will travel to the hotel by coach, spending the evening at the Disney Studio Park where they will have their evening meal.

4 July -Scholars will ascend the Eiffel Tower to get a panoramic view of the incredible city of Paris followed by a boat trip along the River Seine.

Scholars will return to the hotel for their evening meal and the opportunity for a swim in the pool.

5 July —A day at Disneyland, culminating in watching the famous Disney Illuminations fireworks show before boarding the coach to Calais to catch the ferry home.

6 July -Arrive back at Benjamin Britten.

On Friday 14 June, we will be hosting an end of year awards ceremony for our Year 9s to celebrate their subject successes this year. If your son/daughter is nominated for an award, you will be invited to attend the ceremony.

Finally, we would like to **congratulate Brodie Davis (9CG) for becoming the Great Britain U14 Champion in gymnastics.**

What an incredible achievement! **(see above) Well done Brodie, the entire school is proud of you!**

—Mr Sweetman (Joint Head of Year 9), Miss Armon (Joint Head of Year 9) and Miss Banns (Assistant Head of Year)



Year 10: The emphasis for the rest of term remains on revision, as scholars prepare for their summer mock exams. Our scholars have been on several trips to colleges and universities recently. These included Cambridge University, Easton & Otley College and most recently a Careers Fair at Lowestoft Sixth Form College, where a great number of businesses were represented, which gave our young people an insight into specific careers/courses and apprenticeships. Some of our year group who have an interest in aviation have also visited Norwich Airport this term for an Aviation Taster Day. Thank you to all parents who attended Parents' Evening in February. Parents were able to receive direct feedback from subject teachers regarding their children. In other news, Liana Moore (10NC) (**see right**) recently won a **gold medal at the Colchester Festival of Music & Dance**. Liana received a distinction in the Pop/Rock Solo Voice category. *Well done Liana, we are all very proud of you!* We held a special assembly in February to **present the charity M.I.N.D with a cheque for £400 from the proceeds of last year's Xmas Fayre** (**see below**). Mr. Flanagan, Bethany Howlett, Mason Skillings, Cameron Cooper-Lee and Holly Debbage presented the cheque on behalf of Year 10 to Mr Ian Hill and Mrs Rachel Walsh from MIND. After the Easter break we will be launching a new Achievement Rewards Programme for Year 10 scholars. Each half-term the top 10 achievers will receive a certificate and a £10 Amazon voucher. The top five achievers will also be invited to join Mr Flanagan & Mrs Overy for afternoon tea in the Dining Hall.



-Mr Flanagan & Mrs Overy –Head & Assistant Head of Year 10.



Bicycle Safety



It is strongly advised that all scholars cycling to and from school are equipped with a **suitable bicycle helmet**.

Bicycle locks are also recommended in order to securely store bicycles once on the school site.

Under the **Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations (2009)** it is a **legal requirement** for the following items to be fitted to a bicycle in use on the public roads during daylight hours: a rear **reflector, coloured red**, positioned facing rearwards and a **white reflector** positioned facing forwards. **Amber pedal reflectors**, should be fixed to the front and rear of each pedal. **Bicycles must also be in a roadworthy condition**. Scholars are responsible for their safety and should familiarise themselves with, and adhere to, the Highway Code.

Scholars are **expected** to ride their bicycles in a **responsible and considerate manner at all times**. This is of particular importance around peak travel time at 8:30am and 3:30pm, as pavements and roads approaching the school become busier. Accordingly, **bicycles are not to be ridden on the school site**.

Sanctions will be imposed on any scholar who is deemed to be **riding irresponsibly** or in a manner that poses a risk to themselves, other scholars, staff, or members of the public.

Any cyclist can be stopped by the **police** for **riding a bicycle recklessly on a road or in a dangerous, careless or inconsiderate manner** under the **Road Traffic Act, 1991**.

This can result in a prosecution.

The maximum fine that a court can impose in a case of dangerous cycling is **£2,500**.

Philanthropy News



Cambodia Trip Appeal

Year 9 scholars are running a **Tuck Shop in the school Library, every Friday, for the next eight weeks**, in order to raise money for the Camp Cambodia Expedition in 2020, where they will be building sanitation units, medical facilities, wells and dams for people living in extreme poverty in rural Cambodia.

In addition to this, these scholars have held stalls at Year 9 Parents' Evening and the Alumni Wine and Cheese Evening and on Saturday 30 March, they went along to Marks and Spencer Food Hall in Lowestoft and packed bags for customers in return for donations which amounted to £193.

Well done Nathan, Amelie and Katie- the School is very proud of you!

Part of the expedition fees go towards their travel, food and accommodation costs for the month they are there and the other part goes directly towards building materials for the projects they are working on; building classrooms, medical facilities, sanitation units, wells and dams.

If you would like to make a donation towards their Cambodian expedition, they would be extremely grateful for anything you are able to give, large or small. You can donate online by going to their individual Just Giving and Go Fund Me pages here:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/amelie-rough>

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/8rkk8-cambodia-fundraising>

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/katie-hitter-1>

- ❖ ***"Hi, I'm Katie Hitter (9JD) and I'm taking part in the Cambodia Expedition 2020 with my two friends, Amelie and Nathan. We have managed to raise well over £100 so far from the sale of cakes and drinks alone, and we are planning lots of other events like a photo-booth, raffles and a non-uniform day. I have arranged sponsored walks, car washing and tea afternoons, along with sweet selling at my drama group. Please support our efforts if you can. Thank you!"***
- ❖ ***"Hi, my name is Amelie Rough (9JG) and myself, Katie and Nathan are planning to go to Cambodia in the summer of 2020. So far we have held a tuck shop and sold cakes and drinks at our parents' evening. Personally, I am holding bake sales and helping out at local holiday clubs for a little extra money. We would be really grateful if you could help us to achieve our goal in any way."***
- ❖ ***"My name's Nathan Joyce (9JG) and I am going to Cambodia in 2020 to help with lots of charitable projects. On my own, I have managed to raise £1,000 through donations from local businesses and working as a gardener. I want us to go to Cambodia as it's a once in a lifetime opportunity. Why Cambodia? It's because the Khmer Rouge regime killed thousands of people and pushed others into the rural countryside, leaving Cambodia in ruins. There is no free healthcare or council housing like here in the UK, so I want to help make a difference. Thank you all for your kind support."***

News in Sport

U16 Girls' Football:

On Wednesday 20 March, the U16 Girls' Football team travelled to Kesgrave High School to play in the semi-final of the U16 Girls' Suffolk County Cup. After an early goal from Kesgrave inside the first 10 minutes, Benjamin Britten dominated the game with an outstanding team performance and **went on to win the game 3-1**. The team are now through to the County Cup Final which will take place at Needham Market FC on Thursday 9 May at 5pm. It was a fantastic performance by all involved and **an outstanding achievement to reach the final for the second time in three years**. We wish the girls all the best for the final.



The U16 Girls' Football team:

Left to right (back row):

Abbie Butcher, Molly Grint, Niamh Davey, Elisha Bower and Charlotte Bennett.

Left to right (front row):

Zara Williams, Sabrina Miles, Sian Douglas and Leilah Gooding.

Not pictured: Katie Walker, Georgia White and Laura Denby.

U13 Girls' Football:

The U13 Girls' Football team have had an excellent year, **reaching the semi-final of the County Cup for the first time**. The ever consistent Lily-Ann (8AR) and Anais Winney (8SN) have contributed a superb total of 13 goals between them to see them team progress through to this stage. Making their debut this year for the school have been Lily Alexander (7CB), Ellie Burwood (7CB), Sophie Barber-Boakes (7DM) and Lillie Tibble (7MD). The highly skilled Lily Alexander in midfield has assisted in five goals and has been critical in defence throughout the latter stages of the tournament. Millie Reeve's (8AC) outstanding work rate in midfield has been a key factor in the team's success this year, working alongside Lily Alexander and Ellie Burwood in midfield. Anna King's (8PW) performances in goal have rightly earned her the praise, from not only her own team, but other schools as well. The girls have done remarkably well to reach this stage of the competition and should be very proud of themselves. The team (**pictured above**) are, from left to right: Masey Cole, Keira Eubanks, Anais Winney, Anna King, Ellie Burwood, Lily-Ann Winney and Lillie Tibble. Front row: Millie Reeve, Jayden Moyse, Isobelle McMeekin, Sophie Barber-Boakes and Lily Alexander. Miss Schofield congratulates the team on their hard work and determination! Well done all!



U13 Girls' Cricket:

A team of Year 7 and 8 scholars have successfully reached the **County Finals of the Indoor Cricket Championship**, which will take place in Ipswich on Friday 29 March. The Britten team fought off strong competition from Sir John Leman High School to qualify for the County Finals. The consistent team bowling saw the Britten girls bowl out an entire team during one game with minutes on the clock to spare. Positive and decisive batting led to the Britten team scoring totals that other teams simply struggled to match. Well done to the girls, whose commitment to training after school has clearly contributed hugely to their success.

The team are (see right), left to right: Lily-Ann Winney, Anais Winney, Alexis Martin and Ebony MacFarlane. Front row: Maisie Barker, Jemima Craft, Lily Alexander and Imogen Culham.



Year 7 Rugby: Mr Humphrey took the Year 7 rugby team to a tournament at Lowestoft and Yarmouth Rugby Club on Thursday 14 March. The team quickly got into their stride and **beat Bungay High School in their first game**. After an excellent afternoon of rugby the Britten team, captained by Finlay Rearie (7DM), **won two matches, drew one and lost one**.

On Wednesday 27 March, the team hosted East Point Academy and in spite of some spirited play, lost a very entertaining match.

A final game on April 2 against Ormiston Denes concluded a most enjoyable season. Some members of the team are pictured (right) from left to right: Noah Tungate, Liam Irving, Isaac Davis and Jared Sewell.



Basketball: Mr Wayman has been coaching the Year 7 basketball team who continue to compete in the Junior NBA basketball competition. They have been very successful, making it out of the group stages and into the play-offs. In the first round of the play-offs they will face Marshland High School from Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. Well done to all who have trained hard and played even harder. We wish them good luck in the play-offs. The team (see left) are: Maisie Braddick, Georgia Boyd, Ryan Mount, Rio Cook and Ethan Oldman. Front row: Isaac Davis, Toby Mancini, Archie Mayne, Noah Tungate and Luca Turrell-Sinclair.

SPORTING CLUBS April - July 2019					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime	Table Tennis All welcome Mrs McDonald	Table Tennis All welcome Miss Schofield	Table Tennis All welcome Mr Wayman	Table Tennis All welcome Mr Humphrey	Table Tennis All Welcome PE Department
LUNCHTIME CLUBS WILL ONLY RUN FROM 12.55 UNTIL 1.25					
PM 3.30 - 4.30	Table Tennis All Welcome Mr Wayman	Table Tennis All Welcome Mr Humphrey	Cricket All Welcome Miss Schofield	Cricket Year 7/8 Boys Mr Wayman	Tennis All Welcome Mr Humphrey
	Get into Golf All Welcome Miss Schofield	Basketball All Welcome Mr Wayman	Tennis Year 8 Boys Mr Humphrey	Netball All Welcome Mrs McDonald	Rounders All welcome Mrs McDonald
	Rounders All Welcome Mrs McDonald	GCSE Catch Up Year 10/11 Miss Schofield			

School Nurse



Helen Dyer is the designated School Nurse for our school. Helen is a Registered General Nurse and Midwife specialising in community public health and has worked as a nurse for 14 years. Helen is **in school every Friday** and is available for students to visit for support and advice regarding health related issues including physical, sexual, emotional health and well-being, and friendships and relationships. **Appointments made between Helen and students are confidential**, unless there are safeguarding concerns or a student has agreed to her sharing information with others. Referrals to the School Nurse **can be made by parents, schools, other professional agencies and by the scholars themselves**. You can contact Helen with the number or email address below:

Tel: (01502) 532 053 **Email:** ecch.schoolnursing@nhs.net

tackling #periodpoverty



The facts

- » 1 in 10 girls can't afford to buy menstrual products
- » over 137,700 children in the UK have missed school because of period poverty.
- » 68% said they felt less able to pay attention in class at school or college while menstruating.
- » 40% of girls in the UK have used toilet roll because they couldn't afford menstrual products.

You can access free sanitary products **here:**

Lower School Office or Upper School Office

School Safeguarding

Safeguarding is a priority at the Britten School and entails keeping the school community safe from harm, abuse, or injury. **This duty of care is taken very seriously.** All staff receive annual safeguarding training and ensure that safer recruiting practices are followed. Scholars are reminded of the need for safeguarding and key safeguarding messages are provided through S.E lessons, tutorial time activities and year assemblies.

The School is committed to safeguarding scholars, staff and visitors.

We expect all staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment and brief them about our procedures and practices when they arrive at the school.

Safeguarding incorporates the prevention of extremism and radicalisation as well as child protection, and concentrates on the wellbeing of the young person. The School aims to ensure any indication that a young person is not thriving or is failing to meet his or her potential is detected as soon as possible.

If you have any concerns and would like to discuss them with the safeguarding team in the strictest of confidence, please contact Mrs Thurbon, the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Careers News

This half-term, scholars from Year 9, 10 and 11 have participated in trips to the **Aviation Academy in Norwich, Easton and Otley College, East Norfolk Sixth Form's Big Bang Fair, University of Cambridge, Lowestoft Sixth Form's Careers Fair and Wonderfest at the University of East Anglia.**

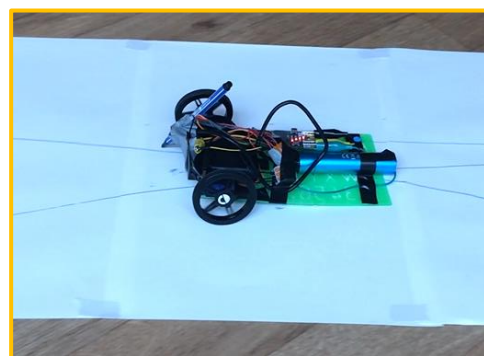
Year 8 have been continuing their careers lessons, looking at self-awareness, adversity and the local job market. They have been introduced to Launchpad, an online based careers programme for KS3 students. Groups of Year 8 scholars have also been participating in Higher Education workshops with our UEA Futures Advocate, Charley LeGrice.

Congratulations to the first cohort of scholars who received their certificates and badges after graduating from the programme this half-term: Zara Damerell, Emily Alexander, Lola Ayers, Nehan Hussain, Lewis Norton, Grace-Dilara Davey, Shannon Holmes, Mia Poll, Cameron Ross and Kaleb Whetren.

Within careers lessons, Year 9 have also been learning about the local job market and completing tasks and activities based around choosing their GCSE option subjects. To coincide with this, they have received assemblies from East Norfolk Sixth Form College, University of East Anglia and the Take your Place project, all of whom spoke to scholars about the decisions they will be making and how these can benefit them in the future when embarking upon further and higher education. There were also representatives from further and higher education organisations at the Year 9 Options Evening which took place on Wednesday 6 March. Scholars and their parents/carers received a talk from Assistant Head teacher Mrs Jenkins about the subjects they could potentially study at GCSE level. The UEA and Take your Place also talked to scholars and parents/carers about planning for university, including myth-busting around student finance, what kinds of courses students can expect to study at higher education level and degree apprenticeships. Following this, scholars and parents/carers were invited to talk to further and higher education stallholders in more detail about their next steps.

Year 9 scholars have also been taking part in workshops hosted by **Cath Duffield, the school's Higher Education Champion.** Cath has been talking to scholars about maximising study time through learning strategies and revision techniques as well as post-16 pathways they can embark upon. We were also delighted to be joined again by motivational speaker Cameron Parker, who spoke to Year 9s about the decisions they are facing and how to overcome adversity and motivate yourself to reach your full potential. Cameron has worked all over the UK and Europe and more information about him and his work can be found via his website: <http://cameron-parker.com/>

STEM Workshops: Year 9 and 10 had the opportunity to participate in two very interesting and enjoyable STEM workshops this half-term. We were joined by artist and creative technologist Emily Godden from Virtually There Studios who worked with our scholars to make autonomous robots (see right) and microbit boats out of recycled plastic and interactive drawings using graphite pencils and sound libraries. *Well done to all involved who produced some fantastic and inspiring work!*



Years 9, 10 and 11 were also invited to participate in a 'Mock Trial' workshops hosted by UEA's Street Law team. The purpose of the workshop was to give scholars an insight into the workings of a court room and the procedure for trial. This is the second time the Street Law team have visited us and we're excited to have a keen group of budding lawyers in these year groups!

Coming up in Careers next half term:

- ✓ Year 8 and 9 continue their Careers Lessons
- ✓ Year 10 start their Careers Lessons
- ✓ Year 10 Goal Setting workshops
- ✓ Year 10 East Coast College Trip

Reminders: There is a wealth of useful careers information and advice on the school website for scholars, parents and carers to make use of. Scholars can receive one-to-one careers support in the Library afterschool, from Monday to Thursday, 3:30-5:00pm. Scholars are also encouraged to make use of the resources available in the Careers Pod in the Library.

And in Other News

Year 11 Success: Year 11 Health & Social Care scholars did themselves proud in a timed cooking assessment, preparing a two-course meal for people with various dietary and health conditions. The exam board had included a meal requirement for Coeliac disease, Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS), diabetes, high cholesterol, obesity and lactose intolerance. They then had to plan, prepare, shop for the ingredients and cook a two-course meal under pressure within a 100 minute time scale. Josh Godbold and Sapphira Glynn are pictured (below) with their culinary creations.



GCSE Art Trip to Christchurch Mansion: On a recent trip with the art department, Year 10 and Year 9 scholars were given the opportunity to see internationally renowned sculptures by Rodin. The exhibition Kiss and Tell held at Christchurch Mansion had the famous Kiss sculpture along with other pieces. Scholars spent the morning making sketches from objects within the Mansion and then took part in a clay workshop with a local artist. In the afternoon they had a talk on Rodin by one of the Museum's curators and then had time to look around the exhibition and make sketches from the pieces of work there. This work forms part of their GCSE coursework and gives the scholars an opportunity to see work from around the world of a high standard to help inform their own work. Feedback from the day was positive and we extend our thanks to the Museum staff for their support and help on the day.

ECO BRICKS Project: The Art and Science departments have been working across all year groups to encourage recycling through Project Eco Bricks. Scholars have been asked to fill as many plastic bottles as they can with plastic which cannot be recycled. Form time has been utilised with the great support of the form tutors. The Science department is advancing the project through the making of bridges out of the filled bottles. Scholars have been encouraged to form teams to create their Eco Bricks and the winning team will receive Amazon vouchers. Awards will take place after the Easter break. So good luck and keep filling bottles!

UKMT Maths Challenge: On Thursday 14 March, a team of four scholars were selected to take part in the UKMT Team Challenge Regional Finals at Framlingham College. The team consisted Lucy Dixon, Emma Read (both Year 9), Robbie Carr and Rebecca Jarrett (both Year 8). Over the course of the day, the team undertook challenges including a split cross-number task, a shuttle challenge against the clock and a very tricky relay task involving running across the length of a school hall multiple times! Our four scholars were up against fierce competition from schools across the East Anglia region, including Langley School and Colchester Grammar School, and ended up finishing in a fantastic 14th place out of the 29 schools that took part. A huge congratulations to the Britten team!



The **UKMT JUNIOR Challenge** is just around the corner, with selected scholars from Years 7 and 8 participating. It will take place on Tuesday 30 April 2019.

Summer Production: Exciting news! The launch of this year's summer production will take place Friday 5 April at 1.15pm in the theatre. Audition packs will be given out for scholars to bring home. The Performing Arts department encourages as many scholars as possible to register their interest on the day. The production promises to be another incredible opportunity for scholars to showcase their talents.

NEW: Robotics and Programming Club: Beginning after Easter, a new STEM-based Robotics & Programming Club will be hosted by Mr Sweetman (mathematics) along with Andrew Cross (10ZS) and Mohamad Abdelsalam (10NC). The club will take place **after school every Wednesday from 3.45pm to 4.45pm** and will initially be available for approximately 15-20 scholars from Years 7-9. Please register your interest with Mr Sweetman at the earliest opportunity!

Intermediate Maths Challenge Success: On 7 February, Britten scholars participated in the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge. The UKMT Individual Maths Challenges are lively, intriguing multiple choice question papers, which are designed to stimulate interest in maths in large numbers of participants.

We are very pleased to congratulate the following scholars on achieving the following awards:

Silver award: Year 11: Lochlann Harvey (*Best in School*), Daniel Mawer, Thomas Boor, Ben Wicks, Amy Adamson, Amber Jenkins, Alexander Perry. Year 10: Andrew Cross (*Best in Year Group*) and Mollie Hambling. Year 9: Lucy Dixon (*Best in Year Group*), Sonny Rouse and Tom Haden.

Bronze award: Year 11: Thomas Brooks, Ethan Schroder, Thomas Lawler, Jenson Read. Year 10: Kai'nan Francis. Year 9: Emma Read, Shamini Nagendram, Matthew Spence, Orcun Akbas and Jessica Read.



Rock Challenge Premier Team Showcase: The Benjamin Britten Rock Challenge team will compete in the Premier Division against nine other schools on the 29 June 2019. Part of being a Premier team is showcasing our performance to the Lower Open Division. On Monday 24 March, the team travelled to Stevenage to perform where **they received 10 Awards of Excellence, namely in Drama, Performance Skill, Choreography, Set Design and Function, Entertainment, Visual Enhancement, Soundtrack, Costuming Character and Stage Crew.** The judges commented on the excellent choreography and performance skill. Judges also noted the brilliancy of the acting and the professionalism of the crew. We would like to say a huge **thank you to Scenic Projects who sponsored the team** and designed and built the set. It is so wonderful to be supported by a local business and our scholars really did benefit. **We would also like to say a huge thank you for the support received from the parents of the team.**

Alumni Wine & Cheese Evening: On Friday 29 March, a Wine and Cheese Evening was held for the school's alumni from 7:00-9:00pm in the Dining Hall. Mrs Overy and Miss Banns, who organised the event, were very pleased with the turn-out on the night and especially happy to see so many once familiar faces back in the school again. The evening encouraged former students and staff to reminisce about their time with the school and to discuss their achievements since moving into the world of work. Mrs Overy extends her thanks to all who attended and to the site staff who stayed late to keep the building open to visitors.

Changes to School Travel: Is your child eligible for Suffolk County Council funded school travel? Suffolk's School Travel Policy has been amended, so it is important that you understand how this might affect your child's eligibility for funded school travel from September 2019. To find out more visit www.suffolkonboard.com/schooltravel. If your child is eligible for funded school travel you now need to opt-in (apply) each year so they can receive it. The opt-in window for this year is open from 1 March 2019 to 31 May 2019. To find out more visit: www.suffolkonboard.com/optin

Dates for the Diary:

30 April: Year 7 and 8 Maths Challenge

2 May: Upper School Awards Evening at the Marina Theatre

22 May: Year 9 immunisations

23 May: Year 8 Parents' Evening

17-28 June: Year 10 Mock Examinations

3-21 June: Year 11 GCSE Examinations

6 June: Year 7 Parents' Evening