

END OF TERM ASSEMBLY Spring 2015

We have spent the last few assemblies just reminding ourselves about the four core values of the school. I am hoping by now that everyone in this room will be able to tell me what those four values are and that they will mean something to you as you go through the rest of your time at Bedford School and, even more importantly, through life generally. They are responsibility, integrity, curiosity and endeavour. The last of these, endeavour, is today's theme. It is tempting to equate endeavour simply to hard work, and indeed hard work is certainly part of it, but endeavour is a rather more exciting word than, say, diligence. Endeavour implies a sense of spirit, of adventure, of trying something out, of giving something a "shot" – and your best shot at that. The next 40 minutes or so will put endeavour on show. Many of you will have worked hard to gain the mentions you get, and all of you will have, at some stage, taken something on or pushed the boundaries of what you thought were possible. This is endeavour – and well done to you if you feel you have displayed that quality this term.

I am going to start with Academia and the Arts this time and an award for a boy who has received 75 merits. Very well done to **Lewis Cramp**.

INTERMEDIATE MATHS CHALLENGE

The Intermediate Maths Challenge was sat by almost 150 able mathematicians from the fourth form, remove and fifth form. I will mention those who won gold certificates and then make a presentation to those boys who topped their year group. Those who achieved gold certificates were:

• Ui Jun Seo	• Harry Sivills
• Bob Song	• Robert Seamark
• Andrew Zhu	• Simon Cheung
• Han Cai	• Hoffer Tsang
• Krittamet Nganthavee	• Felix Mallalieu
• Darcy Clements	• Adam Foat
• Oliver Winder	• Henry Ngai
• Gabriel von der Heyde	

So to the three presentations: please come to collect your certificate.

Best in Fourth Form:	Felix Mallalieu
Best in Remove:	Hoffer Tsang
Best in School:	William Forsythe

PHYSICS CHALLENGE

This is organised by the same people who do the British Physics Olympiad, but aimed at top Year 11 students. A total of 25 boys signed up (completely voluntarily) to take the paper at the beginning of the month. This year we had four boys get a silver award, placing them in the top 13.5% of entrants – very well done. Please could the following step forward to receive their awards:

• Han Cai	• Andrew Zhu
• Ui Jun Seo	• Ivan Simon

CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD

The international Chemistry Olympiad is a challenging written paper, designed to stretch post 16 students. Questions are geared to make students apply what they have learnt to real life applications of chemistry.

This year 26 boys took up the challenge, including three Lower Sixth boys.

There were two gold, six silver and 10 bronze. Silver awards were won by:

• Harry Allen	• William Reynolds
• Arthur Li	• James Winder
• Oliver McLeod	• Tom Zhang

Please could the following come up to collect their Gold certificates:

• Brian Ng	• James Zhang
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ENGLISH REPORT FROM MR ADAMS

On Monday 16th March, the English Department welcomed the acclaimed writer, Louis de Bernières, to deliver a creative writing workshop and to judge the English Faculty's two major prizes: The John Fowles Prize for Sixth Form and The Archie Wellbelove Prize for Years 9-11. The prize giving was held in the Langham Pavilion with parents, tutors and a good number of boys in attendance. There were four finalists in each prize, who were invited to speak on their submission and reflect on its success. This is a particular highlight, as it showcase the pupil-orientated nature of the evening. In the end, Mr de Bernières awarded First Prize for the Fowles to **Aidan Swain** for his creative submission entitled 'Lottery' and First Prize for the Archie Wellbelove Prize to **Christopher Lamb** for his critical submission on Gabriel Garcia Marquez's novel '100 Years of Solitude'.

It might be worth mentioning that several of the finalists are regular attenders and speakers at the English Society, which meets every Wednesday lunchtime. There are always about 10-15 boys that loyally turn up each week to discuss poetry and literature. One to consider for next term.

ART REPORT FROM MR CROKER

For the second year running Bedford School was the winner of the regional heat of ARTiculation, the national art public speaking competition run by the Roche Court Educational Trust. **Jacob King** was a worthy winner this year with his speech about 'The Three Trees', an etching by Rembrandt. The ARTiculation conference and competition final took place at Clare College in Cambridge. Reaching the final of this competition is a huge achievement, and Jacob deserves many congratulations.

DRAMA REPORT FROM MRS CROSSLEY

In the second half of term we've been treated to the dramatic smorgasbord otherwise known as House Drama. This was my first experience of Bedford School House Drama and I wasn't 100% sure what to expect. What transpired was a thoroughly enjoyable evening which involved 76 boys as actors, as well as the technical crew for each house. Some of these boys had never performed on stage in school before. For me the evening demonstrated the fact that there's lots of promising dramatic talent within the school – actors, writers and directors. **Crescent House** were the worthy winners on the night but it was impressive to see an original piece of scriptwriting from every house in the school.

The beginning of next term sees the opening of our fantastic new theatre, The Quarry Theatre at St Luke's, and tickets for the first school production NSFW will be available as soon as we get back next term. It's exciting to think that we will soon all be able to get inside and have a look at the finished building.

MUSIC

The term's highlights have been hugely diverse. I should perhaps start with last Sunday night's extraordinary concert, where the Chapel Choir sang Monteverdi's *Beatus Vir*, and **Sean Davies** (who has just won a scholarship from the Upper Sixth to the Trinity Conservatoire in Greenwich) played the solo in a Mozart Horn Concerto, before a massed choir of boys, girls from BGS, staff, Old Boys and friends, in conjunction with our own Chamber Orchestra, performed the most miraculous Mozart's Requiem. But equal musical tributes must go to the sixth form boys (**Ollie Bowes, Bryan Ng, Tom Edwards, Aidan Swain and Ed Wilson**) who put on four separate concerts this term for their own favourite charities. There have been 21 concerts and 8 choral services in the Music School in the last 8 weeks; ranging from traditional music (eg Choral Society concert) to contemporary music (eg Rock Night), large ensembles (eg School Band), small ensembles (eg String Quartets), and choral groups (eg Chapel Choir). A remarkable tally.

BEDFORDSHIRE FESTIVAL

The Bedfordshire Festival is an annual Arts Week which culminates in a final Gala concert on the Saturday evening featuring the best performances of the Festival. The School did particularly well in the Gala Concert, with no fewer than six boys being selected to take part (**Jim Cooper, Logan Jones, Peter Barrington, Robert Akerele-Miles, Benjamin Wood and Cameron Melly**). Both major awards of the evening, for the best Musical performance in the Festival and for Speech and Drama, were won by Bedford School boys, Jim Cooper and Logan Jones respectively; and Robert Akerele Miles won the best singer.

I have some prizes therefore to present:

Strings Grade 7:	Christopher Junge
Senior Singing:	Robert Akerele Miles

Chamber Music:	Wind Quintet
Most Outstanding performer in Festival (Speech and Drama):	Logan Jones
Most Outstanding performer in Festival (Music):	Jim Cooper

CCF REPORT FROM MR LUMLEY-WOOD

The CCF has had a very busy term. We welcomed our very first ever intake of year 9 recruits in January; the Corps underwent its Biennial Inspection from the MOD in March; planning has started for a large exercise involving the whole Corps for the Field Weekend on 25/26th April, followed by the Annual General Inspection on May 6th and then Annual Camp in July.

The Corps also competed in the Welbeck Leadership Challenge last weekend and the last few weekends have been taken-up with training for the Combat Cadet competition which takes place this weekend.

I ought also to mention here that the OB dinner for those who had served in Afghanistan and Iraq attracted 30 Old Boys back to school; and for the majority of them, their first contact with the forces had been through the school CCF.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

This is one of the most successful extra-curricular activities in the school. I have Silver Certificates to hand out to:

• Duncan Johnston	• Joseph Jacob
• James Smith	

And so to:

SPORT

HOCKEY REPORT FROM MR MEREDITH

It has been another enjoyable and improving term for the hockey boys, with some 170 boys playing the sport. The 1st XI had an up and down term, but finishing 4th in their league was a good achievement bearing in mind the quality of 1st XIs they were up against. The rest of the senior teams continue to impress with the quality of their play and the passion they display on the pitch; this is clearly illustrated by the 4th XI who have been great to watch. Special mention to **Tom Hall** who was nominated the Player of the Season by his peers.

The 16s age group are a talented bunch. Mr Peters has done an excellent job with the A team and got them playing some superb flowing hockey. The U16B must be my team of the season. The multi-talented Mr Bantock pulled himself away from the orchestra to coach the boys mid-week and Dan Seal (a Bedford Blues

rugby player) took them on match days, a lethal combination of cello and prop forward. They have lost only 1 game (to Repton) all season. Their game against Rugby sticks in mind where **Alex Dennis** was a rock in defence and **Harry Guthrie** scored quite possibly the goal of the season, with a reverse stick shot that flew into the top corner!

The U15A&B have struggled, although the reports from Jerome Watson have been positive and said the boys have always trained hard, and given everything on match day. The 15C's have enjoyed a much more successful season, only losing twice, apparently when the B team had raided them for players!

The U14s are a powerful hockey age group and have all had good seasons, the only real setback being when the A team lost in the east regional finals to Bishops Stortford, having beaten them comfortably 4-0 in the traditional block fixture only a week earlier. The 14Ds, drawing on the inspiration and hockey nous of Mr Braithwaite, have been full of energy and enthusiasm and won all their games, which is just as pleasing to me as the 1st XI finishing 4th.

Finally, many congratulations to **Tom Crowson**, who has been called into the England U18 squad (a year young). We wish him well for his international fixtures in the Spring and early Summer.

Hockey - Major Colours to:

• Tristan Ehlert	• James Lamond
• Hans Christian Preyer	• Dan Frossell
• Tom Chapman	• Ben Clarke
• Tom Crowson	• Ajay Momi

ROWING REPORT FROM MR MULKERRINS

The Boat club has had a very successful start to the year, and all 120 boys involved should have raced at least once this term. Success has been spread over all age groups. The 14As won at Bedford Head. Three J14 crews went on to race at the National Sculling event where they finished 14th, 13th and 7th in their classes. The J16s won at Cambridge and Reading, which hasn't happened for at least 25 years, but their most notable result came at the Schools Head where they finished 2nd in their class behind Norwich. The J15s also won at Bedford and all 3 crews had good performances at Hampton: the A crew finished 7th, B 9th and Cs (in the B event) 13th at the Schools Head. The Seniors also won at Bedford and had a pair of 2nds at Peterborough and Hammersmith, before the 1st VIII finished 5th at the Schools Head and 2nd VIII finished 11th.

All the boys are now looking forward to their training camps and the side by side racing season during the summer term.

I have some medals here for that J16 crew who won at Reading for the first time in 25 years, if they would like to step forward now. They are:

• Tommy Hine	• Oliver Winder
• Tom Liggins	• Tom Dason-Barber
• Ed Cazzoli	• Ed Lamb

• Harry Sivills	• Richard Man
• Benedict Eggeling	

Rowing colours:

Major Colours to:	Simon Beal Jared Sheridan
Minor Colours to:	Alex Potts Max Williamson

FOOTBALL REPORT FROM MR HUTCHINSON

The Bedford School football teams have had a mixed season, enjoying some excellent victories, but equally finding fixture cancellations frustrating. Our teams have played a combined 50 matches, winning 44%, and losing 48%. The 1st XI got to the second round of the LB Cup this year, defeating St Edwards in the first round in a thrilling 6-4 victory, coming back from 4-2 down with 5 minutes to play. In the second round against Berkhamsted, the 1st XI were 1-0 down with 10 minutes to play, went all out for the equalizer, but this time conceded a further 4 goals to leave the competition in style. The U16As won every game of the season, thereby extending Mr Finch's enviable record to a second consecutive unbeaten season. They scored 23 goals and only conceded one (from a set piece I hear). Special mention must go to **Georgy Kharzaliya**, who scored 3 hatricks in 6 games. Who needs Lionel Messi?

Minor Colours to:	Ryan Callanan George Cochrane-Davies Jake Duxbury Julian Kitson James Smith Joshua Wellington Dominic Kharzaliya
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4TH XI CHALLENGE!

I should also make mention of this year's fourth eleven challenge, which took place last week between the fourth team hockey and the fourth team football. It is a half of hockey followed by a half of football and the aggregate score across the two matches determines the winners. Two years ago football won on penalties whilst last year the hockey players won by one goal. This year, the hockey team scored 6 goals in the first 10 minutes of the hockey and ended up winning 7-3.

RUGBY SEVENS

The Seniors have had a gutsy season, with injuries taking their toll. Highlights were reaching the final at the

Shiplake Sevens, losing only to what has become an all-conquering Wellington side; a plate final at Oakham, losing 12-10 to Stamford with a young team; and a quarter final at Worth. At Rosslyn Park yesterday, the team lost 7-10 in the group decider against Llanelli Scarlets Academy College, who won it two years ago. Boys were magnificent during the day to beat Campion, Henley College (Wasps AASE College) and Presseli.

The Under 16s beat the hosts to win the Oakham tournament early on, despite losing **Ted Hicks** and **Jack Dalton** to the U18s and Fraser Dingwall to Scotland U16s – congratulations to him. The boys also won the Perse 7s, putting 50 points on the hosts in the final. The team went to Rosslyn Park this week in good heart. First day group wins over St Joseph's Ipswich, City of London Freeman's, Gwyr and Stockport GS resulted in a tough play off game against Whitgift. A 29-7 victory meant a return journey to face Bromsgrove in the last 16. After going 17-0 down, four second half tries set up a 24-17 win and a quarter final against local rivals, Stowe. In a match that could have gone either way, Stowe took their chances well and prevailed 19-14. To reach the last 8 of Rosslyn Park, a tournament with 167 schools, is a great credit to all the boys in the squad and to the coach, Mr Ingle. I have a trophy here for the Cambridge Sevens and congratulate the team on a great season. Could the captain, **Fraser Dingwall**, please step forward.

The U15 sevens team came runners up in their first tournament losing out in a close contest to Marlborough College. The highlight was beating Wellington College in the semi-final and a special mention must go to the two U14 players, **Will Barnes** and **Harry Homan**. They also made it to the vase semi-final of the National Sevens. **Alfie Orchard** has been an excellent captain.

The U14s played two tournaments; I have no information on how they did in the Barnet Sevens, but I do know that they beat BMS 31-7! At the Reigate Sevens, a star performance on the day came from **Toby Garrett** who managed to keep the boys in the Plate tournament until the quarter finals, where they ultimately came unstuck to an impressive St Benedict's team. Well done to **Felix Mallalieu** for his dedicated leadership.

You might also like to know that the Prep VII reached the semi-final of the Rosslyn Park tournament (from over 60 schools), where they just lost out (15-24) to eventual winners Caldicott. Another superb achievement.

SQUASH REPORT FROM MR REES

The 1stV team are undefeated in their school matches, having only dropped 1 game throughout the 2 terms; this is an incredible achievement for them.

The 1stV team also came second in the National Schools Trophy finals in Manchester. The team was: **George Allen, Shiv Patel, Robert Salvesen, Arjun Vainganker** and **Joshua Selvey**.

GOLF

The Golf team have qualified for the ISGA national finals following an impressive 2.5-0.5 win over Radley this week. Congratulations to:

- **Josh Taylor – won 4 & 3**
- **Stan Hafner – won 4 & 3**
- **Guy Johnson – secured an impressive half**

The final will take place at Royal St George's in April.

SCHOOL ROAD RUN TROPHIES

Fourth Form:	William Barnes
Remove:	James Brackenbury
Fifth Form:	Conrad Webber

MINOR SPORTS COLOURS

Badminton:	Jonathan Cheung Joseph Jacob Ruben Sharma
Shooting:	Manahara Ratnayake Alan Wong
Swimming:	Frank Kupshik
Water Polo:	Fuga Iwama Charlie Hart Tom Smith.
Fives:	Michael Holroyd David Woods Hustin Bhatt

HOUSE AWARDS

HOCKEY

Senior House Hockey:	Paulo Pontine
Junior House Hockey:	Paulo Pontine

FIVES

Senior House Fives:	St Peters
Senior Individuals Fives:	Ewan Cox, Ashburnham
Junior Individual Fives:	Harry Beard, St. Peters

SQUASH

Senior Squash:	Crescent
Junior Squash:	Crescent

BADMINTON

Senior Badminton:	St Cuthbert's
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BASKETBALL

Basketball:	Bromham
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VOLLEYBALL

Basketball:	St Cuthbert's
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TABLE TENNIS

Senior House Table Tennis:	Bromham
Junior House Table Tennis:	St Peter's

FOOTBALL

Senior House Football:	St Peters
Junior House Football:	Bromham
Ousels Challenge Shield (<i>staff against leavers</i>)	The Leavers

HOUSE DEBATE

House Debate:	St Peter's
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HOUSE RELAY

TEAM CUPS

Fourth Form:	Paulo Pontine
Remove:	Crescent
Fifth Form:	Paulo Pontine
Lower Sixth:	St Cuthbert's
Upper Sixth:	Bromham

HOUSE CUP

You might like to know that the current state of play is extremely close. I am advised that the final score next term may well come down to net merits, so do try to win a few! The scores currently are:

Ashburnham	Bromham	Paulo Pontine	St Cuthbert's	Crescent	St Peter's
72	75	70	62	67	74

Net merits for this term have been won by:

Fourth Form:	Bromham
Remove:	Phillpotts
Fifth Form:	Talbot's
Lower Sixth:	St Cuthbert's
Upper Sixth:	Talbot's

Overall House Totals are:

1st:	Redburn
2nd:	St Cuthbert's
3rd:	St Peter's

TWO FINAL SPECIAL MENTIONS

Yesterday we had the House relays, followed by the Charity Run. **St Peter's** House ran for Harrison's fund, the muscular dystrophy charity which Mrs Murray spoke about last term in Assembly. **Oliver Smith** of the

5th form ran 20 laps (about 15 miles; longer than a half marathon) with 20 kilos on his back. He raised almost £500 for his chosen cause. If he is still walking, I'd like to shake him by the hand. Oliver, please do come on up to receive your applause from the school.

Secondly, I am awarding a single Headmaster's scarf this term. This boy has made a remarkable impression upon Bedford School without fanfare. He is a top academic, and a fine award winning scientist. He is a musician – a grade 7 Harpist; an actor and linguist, starring in the Spanish play last term; as a sportsman, he plays for the Hockey 2nd XI, the Fives 1st V, the Cricket 3rd XI; he has just won his shooting colours; he debates; he is Chair of the Bedford School medical association; and he is invaluable as a Section Commander in the RAF. How he finds the time, I have no idea. He has been nominated to me by a whole host of staff. He is **Manu Ratnayake**.

Before we finish off, I wish to say thank you on behalf of you all to our remarkable staff, without whom none of these highlights would have been possible. Please remember to thank them yourselves on the way out. To the top three year groups, I wish you well for revision; work hard please; and I hope you all have a happy and healthy Easter.

We finish with Domus Pater.