



## Former Pupil and Parent Reunion Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019

12.00-2.30pm

March 2019

Dear Former Pupils and Parents,

Former parents and pupils are welcome to attend from midday on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May. We are trialing a different format which will, hopefully, enable former parents to be included. We will have tea and snacks from 1.00pm. The day will finish at 2.30pm.

After 23 years at the helm, Keith Young will be hanging up his Head's gown and departing for retirement in sunny Spain. Only two other present prep school Headmasters have held office for longer. He took over a school which was a boarding school with a single form as its Pre-Prep and in need of development. During his tenure the school has more than doubled in size and Keith has overseen the building of the Middle School (Years 2-4), Lower School (Nursery –Year 1) and, most recently, our fabulous Performing Arts Centre. He leaves our school with more students than we have ever had and with financial stability in considerable contrast to the school he inherited. We will always be indebted to Keith for all he has done to develop Westbrook Hay while maintaining its long cherished ethos.

The Governors have appointed Mark Brain as the new Headmaster. He is currently the Headmaster of Stonar School Prep School in Wiltshire and is married with three children. Mr. Hill was relieved to hear Mr. Brain is a cricket fan (but fortunately he does not support Stoke... he is a Gooner!)

This last year has seen plenty of Westbrook sporting success but there is a clear highlight. The 1<sup>st</sup> team won the National Prep Schools U13 6-a-side competition for the **third year** on the trot. Given the opposition from over 80 schools this is a truly amazing achievement and something of which Mr. Stedman is rightly very proud and surprisingly is quite good at reminding us about! Our Colts won the County Cup and the U13's won the County Futsal. Our U11's won the Inter Prep School Athletics for the 6<sup>th</sup> year in a row and our golfers won the Inter Prep School Golf Tournament. Our Girls' sport is undergoing a transition and they now play football, netball and cricket which has been popularly received.

On another sporting note we are very proud of one of our Year 5 pupils who won the Premier League prize for writing. This resulted in the Premier League Trophy being brought to the school along with a presentation by the children's author, Dan Freeman, who writes the 'Jamie Johnson' series of football books. We also had individual success for another Year 5 pupil who won the PQA National Screenwriter Competition. She was presented with her trophy by Pauline Quirke at a red carpet event in Leicester Square. This was not the only accolade for the English Department, with our Year 6 children winning the overall trophy in the Hemel Hempstead Young Rotary Club Year Six Essay competition.

WESTBROOK HAY, LONDON ROAD,  
HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, HERTS HP1 2RF  
Telephone: (01442) 256143 Fax (01442) 232076  
Website: [www.westbrookhay.co.uk](http://www.westbrookhay.co.uk)  
E-mail: [peter\\_makower@westbrookhay.co.uk](mailto:peter_makower@westbrookhay.co.uk)

# Westbrook Hay Prep School



The Performing Arts Centre has had a massive impact on the school. Three spectacular performances have taken place in the last year, put on by Lower, Middle and Upper School. This was the first time Lower School had used the PAC to perform their own play and it was fantastic. The Middle School were not to be outdone and presented yet another excellent show, but for me the highlight was 'Oliver!', directed by Mr. Woodward. He surpassed even his previous exceptional productions and left the audience stunned. Part of this success comes as a result of the LAMDA classes at the school in which nearly half of all our pupils take part.

We have gained numerous awards from Senior Schools, including Academic, Music, Drama and Sporting Scholarships. Once again, these reflect the very high standards the school is reaching across the curriculum and it is wonderful to see the progress we are making.

Mrs. Harris continues to work her magic in the Science Lab and last year we gained the 'Space Educational Quality Mark'. Mr Moss drives our DT Department forward and we came second in the Dacorum Year 8 Team Challenge. Mr Wagstaff's musicians have excelled again winning trophies at the Watford Festival and awards to their next schools. The Choir has performed at the Royal Albert Hall and the O2. The Art Department maintains its high standards, as can be witnessed by the children's artwork seen around the school, including our redecorated dining room.

The former pupils' Facebook group (the group name is Westbrook Hay School) has nearly 400 members. If you or your friends from the school have not yet joined, please ask for a friend request and I will add you to the group. You can also keep up with our news on social media by liking the school Facebook page 'Westbrook Hay Prep School' and following us on twitter @westbrookhaysch.

Hopefully we will see many of you on the 19<sup>th</sup>. If you are planning to come, please can you drop me an email? It helps with the catering and it is also lovely to hear your news.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter Makower', enclosed within a large, sweeping oval flourish.

Peter Makower  
[peter\\_makower@westbrookhay.co.uk](mailto:peter_makower@westbrookhay.co.uk)