

BEDE'S PREP PUPILS WIN YOUNG ENGINEERS CHALLENGE



Freya, Georgie, Oscar and James who worked together to win the 22nd annual Young Engineers Challenge

Bede's Prep School won the 22nd annual Young Engineers Challenge in January, with the team of Oscar, James, Freya and Georgie seeing off tough competition from 19 other local school teams.

Organised by Eastbourne Education Business Partnership on behalf of the Eastbourne Engineering Club, the challenge focused on the application of delivery drones and the principles of flight, aerofoils and airscrews.

The competition kicked off with a presentation by Chris Hayton from Northbrook College and some demonstration drone flights.

The teams of Year 6 and Year 7 pupils were then tasked with working with their Design and Science teachers to build two free-fall delivery drones that would be flight-tested carrying a raw egg, working from a common design using a variety of

supplied materials and their own ideas. The teams refined their performance during flight tests, experiencing a range of important engineering, problem solving and team working tasks.

The teams were judged on their innovation, the design and quality of construction, teamwork and the condition of the egg on landing. Councillor Janet Coles attended the competition to assist with the judging and present the prizes to the winners.

"Our 22nd annual challenge helped to put some real engineering lessons in context for the pupils and was great fun," commented Tim Sorensen on behalf of Eastbourne EBP.

The Bede's Prep team gratefully received the Young Engineers Challenge Trophy as well as special Team and Individual prizes.

SENIOR SCHOOL BEST IN SOUTH FOR VALUE ADDED



Figures released by the Department of Education show that Bede's Senior School is the Number 1 School for student progress in the Southern Region, including East and West Sussex, Hampshire and the South West.

At the end of January, and for the first time in almost a decade, independent schools in the United Kingdom were given a Value Added ranking for A Level in the Department of Education's League Tables, with Bede's being rated 1st in Sussex, 1st in the Southern Region and 31st out of the 2,674 schools in the whole country for pupil progress.

Unlike traditional League Table rankings, "Value Added" scores are government calculations which compare pupil performance in and between public examinations. They are designed to provide a measure as to how much more or less successful students have been by virtue of the school they attended, declaring how much 'value' their school has added to their results.

Bede's Headmaster Dr Richard Maloney said of the Department of Education's findings, "We traditionally pay very little attention to League Tables but on this occasion we can hardly help but express pride. They serve as testament to the hard work of our pupils and teachers and, I believe, underscore the strength of our unique and holistic educational philosophy."

BEDE'S NURSERY TO LAUNCH NEW FACILITY



We are very happy to announce that we will be opening a new, expanded and dedicated site for our Nursery and Baby Unit at Downs House on Duke's Drive in January 2016.

The existing Bede's Nursery will move from its current site at Holywell - part of the main Bede's Prep School site - to this new facility which is situated directly across the road.

"The decision to transform Downs House into a new state of the art facility for babies and pre-school children was taken as a result of the high demand for places at our existing Nursery," explained Bede's Head of Nursery, Louise Hackett.

"We are thrilled to be entering this new chapter of development."

A substantial investment in the new Bede's Nursery facility will ensure that Bede's provision for babies aged 3 months to three years, which has already been assessed as "out-standing" in its last Ofsted inspection, will be improved even further while also doubling its capacity.

The Pre-Prep facilities at the current Holywell site will also be re-developed to transform the building, which opened in 2010 and boasts outdoor classrooms, dedicated computing facilities, library and bespoke dance studio, into a custom-crafted space for young learners aged 3-7.

Dr Richard Maloney said of the plans, "The growth and increased interest we have seen in our Nursery is testament to Bede's unique philosophy of holistic education. I am exceptionally proud of the care and enrichment we offer to pupils from infancy right through until they leave us at eighteen."

Giles Entwisle, Headmaster of Bede's Prep School added, "We are delighted to announce this expansion of what is already the premier nursery experience in Eastbourne - something which I'm sure the local community and economy will celebrate and no doubt benefit from over the coming years."

PRE-PREP ANIMAL SAFARIS INSPIRE, ENLIGHTEN AND EXCITE



The topic of 'Animal Safaris' has opened up a journey of discovery for all the Bede's Pre-Prep children.

We first travelled to the frozen landscape of Antarctica, observing daily weather patterns through live webcams, before Sunny the meerkat led the children to the Kalihari desert.

Scarlet said of her adventures, "I really enjoyed making my desert collage", whereas Chloe and Ben's favourite thing was "when Sunny arrived back with us in the post."

The arrival of the class Safari Truck in the jungle has now inspired the children to write an adventure story, bringing together all the new skills they have been introduced to in English.

Within Dance meanwhile, the children have been moving to 'Peter and the Wolf', thinking about which animals they can hear and how they can move to imitate them.

Finley and Hugo both liked all the science that has taken place, from ice investigations to melting chocolate to exploring reversible states. Lydia's highlight was "when we drank hot chocolate to warm ourselves up in Antarctica."

All of these experiences have enhanced the children's learning and have brought their learning to life.

The celebration of all that they have achieved, whether through receiving Section Points, Good Work Club certificates, Headmaster's Commendations or through the most powerful tool of all - talking and feeding back to each child individually - are all important at the Pre-Prep and act as wonderful testaments their hard work. Indeed, it is quite astonishing to consider the learning journeys the children have been on over the past six weeks - and there are yet more safaris to come next half term!



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EDITORIAL: THE FUTURE IS NOW



As Albert Einstein said: ‘the measure of intelligence is the ability to change.’

As we have moved into the New Year, our staff have been challenging themselves through the use and development of digital devices to enhance learning in the classroom.

The film ‘Back to the Future II’ suggested that in 2015 we would be travelling by hoverboard and flying cars, using video calls and living in highly interactive homes. One particular scene makes an eerie reference to Google Glass as the Doc uses his glasses to take photos. Pure science fiction only 30 years ago is now quite normal and, although we have some way to go before I get myself a hoverboard, asking ourselves how the future may look in just five years time has a direct and lasting impact on planning how we meet the future needs of our pupils, both those readying themselves for the transition at the end of this academic year, those children entering our nursery and pupil in between.

We want the classroom to be an environment where the children learn to interact and communicate effectively to solve shared problems, because these are the

skills they will need in the real world.

“There is still a need for young people to learn and understand the traditional aspects of subjects,” says Oliver Quinlan, programme manager of Digital Education Projects at Nesta. “But disciplines are changing as a result of developments in technology and school subjects need to develop to take account of that.” Indeed, I would argue that at Bede’s we have been doing exactly that for some time - most obviously in the delivery of the Computing curriculum, under the leadership of Mr Barclay.

Since well before the September 2014 announcement of the new National Curriculum for Computing, we had been teaching our pupils digital literacy skills, as well as the operational fundamentals of computers and programs, enabling the children to be confident in the use of digital technologies and providing opportunities for them to produce their own digital content.

Born into this information age, IT is neither special nor novel for today’s pupils; instead, it is an integral part of any world they have ever known and, like it or loathe it, that seems unlikely to change.

Across the curriculum, teachers at Bede’s are rapidly gaining an awareness and expertise of how technology is able to enhance the educational experience of our pupils. Heads of Department are working towards the development of curriculum for all years which will allow for a greater cross-curricular, topic and enquiry based teaching approach to learning which offers more interconnection for the children and which integrates significant projects into key topics. We want pupils to build their own portfolio of work presented digitally, in order to show their understanding of how different subjects within the curriculum deal with overarching themes such as ‘conflict’, ‘pattern’ or ‘community’.



Whilst the speed and development of future technology (and its possible impacts on our lives) may seem uncertain, the destination for Bede’s Prep is clear; academic rigour remains at the heart of what we wish to achieve, and we need to embrace new technology and use it wisely to enhance pupils’ learning. Technology is intrinsic to each child’s future success at senior schools, universities and in the work place; thank goodness that we are already ahead of the curve!

Giles Entwisle
Headmaster

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YEAR 6 TRIP TO STRATFORD BIRMINGHAM AND WARWICK



Our first-ever Year 6 residential trip to Birmingham was an exciting Co-Curricular enterprise involving Bede's Prep's History, Science, Geography and English departments.

Our first stop was Warwick Castle, where pupils enjoyed the Attack & Defence talk given by the castle staff before we went off to an activity centre to engage in some climbing. On the next day we visited the Think Tank Science Museum where the children were quickly immersed in the interactive displays before we were back on the coach and heading towards the much anticipated trip to Cadbury's World. On arrival, the pupils went straight into a Geography workshop 'Bean to Bar' before we embarked on a brilliant Factory Tour. That evening, we visited a Winter Sports centre called The Snowdome where the children went tobogganing. It was amazing and the children were straight up the travelator to the top of the slope, whizzing down and starting the process all over again! On the final day of the trip we visited Shakespeare's Stratford, including trips to his old school and home and his final resting place before lunch outside the RSC Theatre. Throughout the trip, the children were an absolute credit to Bede's and a real pleasure to take away. Moreover, I think that we all, teachers and pupils, learned a huge amount about a vast array of topics - all the while having a great deal of fun!

Sam Brown
Head of History

SAXONS SEE SUCCESSFUL START TO INTEGRATED CURRICULUM



This term has seen the introduction of a new, integrated curriculum in Bede's Pre-Prep.

The children have been focusing on the overarching theme of "Invaders and Settlers". Within this, Year 3 children have been learning about Saxons and Year 4 about India.

The curriculum has been planned to join up lots of subjects, providing engaging ways to develop skills and knowledge. In Year 3, the children began by looking at the origins of Saxon place names and why the invaders chose to settle where they did. The children then used this information to design their own settlement, including choosing their own Saxon place names, such as Hamford; meaning a village with a shallow river crossing.



They brought these designs to life by making clay models of their settlements, working together in small groups to sculpt and paint their models. The children really enjoyed the project, and working with lots of different media in order to produce a final piece.

Amelia said of the project, "I learned that Saxon settlements were very different from the way houses are now, so they wouldn't have big mansions or anything and we had to think about that when we did our designs." The children also wrote 'in role' as 'Saxon Estate Agents' producing advertisements for their settlements, explaining why their settlement would be perfect for life in Saxon Britain! Eva's pitch read, "Are you fed up of being attacked? Well in Hurstleigh, enemies cannot get up the hill. There is nothing you can't get here, we have the clearest water for miles!"

The children and staff in Year 3 have loved the topic so far, and are looking forward to moving on to look at Vikings after half term.

Robert Upton
Director of Studies

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YEAR 8 MONOLOGUE EVENING



From Morpurgo to Shaw and Kroetz to Sophocles, the monologues performed by Year 8 Prep School pupils at the Monologue Evening on January 26, provided an interesting range of theatre, presented with skill and flair by talented and dedicated young actors. The Year 8 Monologue Evening is, in effect, a final rehearsal for those pupils who are auditioning for Drama Scholar-

ships to senior schools; the monologue is a central part of these auditions, together with improvisation, interview and a portfolio.

It is invaluable for the children to have the opportunity to try out their performances several times in front of others, and who better to perform to than a supportive audience of family and friends?

The pupils involved were all members of the Prep School Drama Masterclass who have been preparing for their Drama Scholarships since they finished their performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the end of November.

I have to commend them for their commitment, hard work and talents. There cannot be many 13 year-olds who are so happy to give up two evenings a week and some Saturday mornings so enthusiastically to their studies!

Jeanette Adams

Drama Masterclass Coordinator



PUPILS LEARN TABLE-MAKING TIPS IN SENIOR DESIGN MASTERCLASS



The Design and Technology Masterclass restarted this term with seven eager students from Bede's Prep School journeying up to the Senior School on Tuesday afternoons.

The objective of the Masterclass, which

takes place during Activity Time, is for pupils to experience designing and making products with the Senior School's renowned DT department.

Some of the students involved have been part of the masterclass for some time now, but it is great to have some fresh faces joining the activity too.

This term, the children are working on making a small table each, having previously created beautiful wooden Keepsake Boxes.

Nick Potter

Head of Design and Technology



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YEAR 3 AND 4 TREASURE ISLAND



After weeks of intensive rehearsal, line-learning and song practising, the Year 3 and 4 production of 'Treasure Island' had its performances on Thursday 6 and Friday 7 February.

All the children got thoroughly involved in the action, and there were many stand-out moments, although what was most noticeable was the overall quality of performance from the young ensemble.

The whole cast sang the songs to a high standard, spoke their lines clearly and with conviction, and stayed in character while on stage; a considerable achievement for this age range!

Rather than taking my word for it, please read the review by Sasha Akhtyrs'ka, a Ukrainian student, who wrote the piece to the right as part of her English Language learning programme.



Will Bryant
Head of Religious Studies and Year 3 Form Teacher

Cuteness and happiness filled my vision during the Year 3 and 4 production of Treasure Island.

The pride of the children was everywhere. Their smiles never faded. The moment everyone shouted, "Not the Black Spot!" and the lights dimmed and lit up again really made my day! All of the actors played their characters well and the main pirate, Long John Silver, had makeup which made him look really old! The dancing and singing was perfect and the costumes were outstanding.

The look on the faces of the audience and parents around me almost made me cry; pride and happiness filled their hearts as they realised that their kids are growing up and becoming independent.

I would recommend this play to anyone, and wish to thank very much the staff and children who produced it.

Sasha Akhtyrs'ka
Year 8





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A TERRIFIC HALF-TERM OF CONCERTS, MASTERCLASSES AND RECITALS



With the ever-competitive Inter-Section Music Competition set to take place right before this half-term breaks up, and with the end of term Spring Concert now clearly visible on the horizon, it might be easy to forget what a busy term we have had already in the Prep School Music department.

Too late for submission to the last newsletter, just before Christmas, Years 3, 4 and our Senior Choir sang carols in Asda for an hour to raise money for Demelza Hospice. The children sang their hearts out, with £150 collected from onlookers during a single hour! Demelza subsequently sent a thank you letter to the School and informed us that they used some of the money raised to provide the children in the hospice with a party including a portrait artist,



an entertainer and other gifts. The terrific performances in the recent Year 3 and 4 musical, *Treasure Island*, were followed by the Years 3 and 4 Instrumental Evening on Monday 9th February, during which pupils treated their peers, teachers and families to a veritable musical extravaganza. Fourteen children played a variety of instruments and pieces, varying in style from jazz to folk, classical to contemporary. Piano, cello, guitar, voice and drum kit were all performed with confidence and a smile! Some Year 5 children supported the Junior Chamber choir and gave an upbeat and fun rendition of 'Alphabet Athletics'.

Musicians from the Prep School also went over to our Senior School on Tuesday 10th February to take part in their Prep Schools' Orchestral Day. A selection of Bede's Senior School Music Scholars and members of their orchestra played along with pupils from four prep schools across an intense day of rehearsals which culminated in a great concert to parents. Days such as this are invaluable for technique and stamina, and I am really proud of our pupils for working so hard throughout the day and gelling so quickly with pupils they had never met

before and yet performed some complex pieces alongside later in the day!

At the end of January, members of Year 8 also gave a brief lunchtime concert, with Drama Scholars performing their song choices in preparation for their Scholarship Assessments.

Well done to all the children who took this opportunity to perform and best of luck with your scholarships!

With an eye on the end of term, plans for this year's Spring Concert are well under way and I would like to invite parents to sing the Lacrimosa from Mozart's Requiem and the concluding item which is a medley of Les Miserables songs with us.

There will be three rehearsals leading up to the event and these will be held in the school theatre on 3rd, 10th and 17th March starting at 7pm and lasting for one hour.

As always, the concert will be a great event and I have invited 50 pupils from St. John's, Meads and a few of our Senior School pupils to sing along side us, so it will be a real celebration of music within the community.

The concert itself will take place at All Saints' Church, Eastbourne, and will start at 6:30. I hope to see as many members of the Bede's Prep family present as possible!

Colin Hughes
Head of Music



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YEAR 7 MATHEMATICIANS TO THE RESCUE

DIARY DATES



In Maths classes at Bede's Prep, we always strive to provide rich and stimulating lessons by linking them to real-life situations.

In January, the topic for Year 7 was volume and their role was to save an animal from Africa.

The pupils were hooked in during the starter, when they watched a video about endangered animals in Africa and saw how people saved them, by relocating them - sometimes to altogether different countries.

The children were tasked with the problem of choosing an African animal to save and with relocating it. They brainstormed ways to solve the issue of

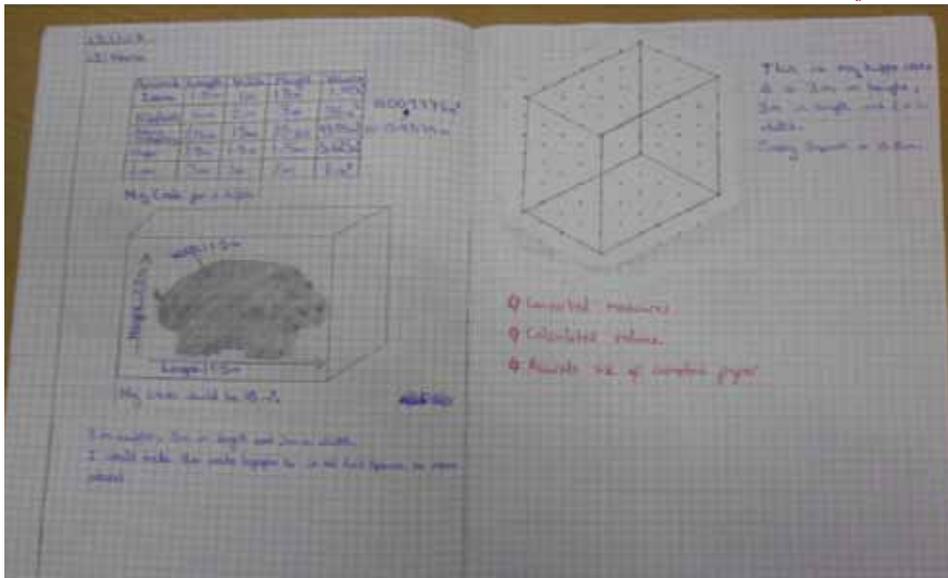
moving the chosen animal and then set to work.

The children used a multitude of skills to complete the task, such as working out the approximate volumes of different animals using iPads.

They converted measurements found on the internet into metric units, thinking about how much space would be needed in a crate for the animal to move freely and then designed the crate using isometric paper.

Well done Year 7!

*Scott Fasciolo-Barnes
Head of Maths*



YEAR 5 BIRMINGHAM TRIP

Tues 24 - Thurs 26 March

PREP OPEN MORNING

Saturday 7 March



YEAR 6 PLAY

Weds 11 - Fri 13 March

FOBP SPRING BALL

Saturday 14 March



SPRING CONCERT

Friday 20 March

SENIOR OPEN MORNING

Saturday 21 March



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AN ACTION-PACKED SPRING AT MEADS END

January and February have provided a great half-term for the boarders, one highlight of which was a fantastic demonstration of how to make authentic sushi!



After the sushi lesson had concluded, the boarders tasted their creations and even one of our Japanese pupils was left suitably impressed! A full report – along with other boarding stories - can be seen on our website or Facebook page.



The boarders had different but equally happy day on the 18 January; it started off with a trip to see *The Book of the Dead*, the latest animated Disney movie, which was followed by a swimming session and fiercely competitive ten-pin bowling match.

Thankfully, there were no sore losers after the bowling and everyone returned to the house in great spirits! Last weekend, the boarders were treated to some much needed retail therapy

when they were taken into Eastbourne for a shopping trip. This gave them a fantastic opportunity to buy their friends and family some presents ahead of half-term and we returned with some brilliant new board games which they subsequently spent the afternoon playing. Sometimes, the lives of the boarders are very hectic and – like any family – it's just nice to spend some 'down time' together, and we are always encouraging the children to be good citizens. This includes demonstrating good manners and friendliness, with each pupil taking turns, saying please and thank you and helping one another.

We have also had a bit of a focus on learning some life skills, such as stripping beds, planning their laundry and learning how to learn and revise at home.

Three boys have shown themselves to be exemplary in these regards and, we are delighted to have appointed Pablo Nistal, Ibragim Shirinov and Themba Wardle as our House Prefects. The remit of a House Prefect in Meads End is wide and can vary from being a buddy to new or homesick children, touring prospective families around the boarding house and reading to the younger children. These three lead by example however, and are doing a wonderful job.



Elsewhere, Berta Solanas-Martinez and Flexi-Boarder Eliane Boyer have enjoyed enhancing their Legat dance programmes with regular trips to the Senior School to take part in dance lessons. Their lessons have been intense and rigorous, with the girls both seeing the benefits of coming to a School with a wide pool of specialist staff who help them to push themselves.

As a final note, this week Nahje Smith was told that he had been selected for the Independent Schools FA squad – we are really pleased that his hard work and talents have been recognised in this way and are very excited to be supporting him in the next leg of his sporting development.

Chris and Alison Atherton
House Parents



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SPORT FOOTBALL

GIRLS THROUGH TO SUSSEX CUP SEMIS



Bede's U12 Girls' Football team recently hosted Angmering in the quarter-finals of the Sussex Cup.

Having three players off sick with flu, the girls were a little anxious about this fixture but they had nothing to fear under the leadership of captain Lil Jones.

Ellie Sarro stepped up to offer her services as Goalkeeper with Lucy Drewek off sick and the rest of the team were determined to do their best.

It was a great game to watch and both teams played some excellent football, always trying to pass the ball out of defence with good quick passing.

Ellie made some good saves and grew in confidence and was only defeated by a single, excellent opposition goal in the first half.

Lil Jones had the elegance of Kelly Smith as she danced around the opposition midfield to score her four goals. Elise Sutherland, Freya Palmer and Jazzie Cecil were difficult

to get through in defence and proved a tough combination to beat with their expert timing, speed and strength when tackling and channelling the opposition. 30 minutes each way did take its toll, and we soon conceded a few more goals towards the end of the second half.

Amelia switched to left back and Izzy Atherton tried to take on a more creative and holding role in the midfield, so that she could release Phoebe and Sadie onto the ball upfront to counter attack.

Phoebe scored a lovely goal when Elise Sutherland chipped the ball into the box for Jazzie Cecil to pass to Phoebe Dixon who slotted the ball firmly and cleanly into the corner of the goal.

It was a great afternoon of Football and the girls are now looking forward to their semi-final match which will again be played at Bede's.

Keep training over half term girls!

NETBALL

U12S CLAIM SUSSEX SCHOOLS SILVER



The U12 girls did brilliantly well in their Sussex Schools Tournament in January, narrowly losing in the final 9-6 after some great play throughout the day.

The girls won their group with some great shooting and movement around the court and met Moira House in the semi-finals.

They demonstrated some great movement and athleticism and won the semi-finals 5-1, qualifying them for the finals against Roedean.

In the first half of the match, the girls played well and stole the lead with two great turnovers - despite losing their first centre pass - and were leading 3-2 at half-time.

In the second half of the match, Roedean come back very strong with some exceptional play from their Goal Attack which allowed them to emerge victorious.

The whole tournament was a fantastic display of teamwork and the style of netball played by both teams in the final was very good.

Well done U12 Girls- a great start to the season!

Sharon Muxworthy
Head of Games

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SPORT CRICKET

BEDE'S GIRLS SELECTED FOR SUSSEX CCC



Chase, Daisy, Elise and Matilda

Six Bede's girls have been selected for Sussex County honours - two from Bede's Senior School and four from Bede's Prep. All members of the Bede's Cricket Academy, the players include Chase Sutherland, Daisy Bean, Elise Sutherland, Matilda Collins, Ellie Robinson and Ariana Dowse, all of whom have been chosen to represent the County in their age groups.

For those Bede's Prep pupils selected, this marks the first major result to come out of the Bede's Prep School Girls' Cricket Development Programme. Founded last year,



Ariana and Ellie

the goal of the Girls' Cricket Development Programme is to train and create a pathway to help talented, ambitious and enthusiastic female cricketers through to representing the county, region and national teams. The girls all receive professional coaching guidance from ex-Sussex player and Bede's cricket coach Neil Lenham who works in partnership with Bede's Director of Cricket and ex-England International player Alan Wells.

Mr Lenham said of the girls' achievements, "Girls cricket is one of the fastest growing sports in the UK and we want to be at the forefront of school development throughout both Prep and Senior schools. The success of these six County players is very exciting and shows the coaching programme is already making an impact." Bede's Director of Sport, Andrew Hibbert, also added, "These selections are fantastic for the girls who have worked very hard with the cricket coaching staff at Bede's. "Their successes serve to underline the importance of having high quality coaches working at both Trust schools to provide seamless progression between them. Their selection is just reward for their efforts."

SWIMMING

REGIONAL SUCCESS FOR BEDE'S PREP PUPILS



Twenty Eight Swimmers recently represented Bede's Prep School in the Regional Round of the IAPS Swimming Championships at the Sovereign Centre.

Everyone swam incredibly well with some outstanding swimming both in the individual events and the relays.

1st places were secured by Kirstin in Breaststroke, Lyla in Backstroke, Jasmine in Butterfly and Tom in Front Crawl in their respective age groups. Themba, Chase, Charlie, Ben, Max, Jessica and Florence came a very close 2nd place in their races.

Everyone swam well in both the Medley and Freestyle Relays but congratulations must go to the U10 Girls' team, who were victorious in both Relays winning the Medley Relay by half a length. The U12 boys' team also won their Medley Relay.

Well done to everyone who swam, all the hard work and training really paid off!

Results from these Regional Rounds has been recorded and will be published in March. We will then find out if anyone from Bede's Prep School has made it into the top sixteen swimmers in the Country in their respective age groups before the National finals in May.

Michelle Jebb
Head of Swimming

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