



The Bermuda High School

Torchbearer

Spring 2019

**Ms Harris Looks Back
Tapping Toes at Mamma Mia!
Innovation Centre Breaks Ground**

Plus: School News - Alumni Updates - Financial Report

*Inspiring Excellence
and Leadership*



BHS



Hello world...

**I am curious
I am determined
I am creative
I am strong
I am kind
I am a leader
I am a BHS graduate**

I am ready.

With a BHS education, you will be prepared for whatever path you choose. You will join a network of accomplished alumni and your knowledge and self-assurance will take you wherever you want to go.

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Torchbearer is published by the Advancement Office of The Bermuda High School for the alumni, parents, friends and students of the School. Its purpose is to inform and inspire the School's community and to acknowledge the many accomplishments of the BHS family.

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BHS offers an education like no other

Linda Parker

As an alumna, it is my privilege to serve as Head of School, and I am proud, every day of our students, staff and alumni. From the very first day of school, BHS students join a community like no other, learning from dedicated teachers with an unrivalled understanding and deep experience in educating girls. Throughout their time at BHS, students explore their passions and take risks in an environment purposefully constructed to support and challenge girls. They have role models in the older girls, and, over time, they will strengthen their own voices and step capably and confidently into leadership roles throughout the BHS community, and beyond. Our aim at BHS is that all students leave with the qualifications, the depth of knowledge, the self-assurance, the personal qualities, the flexibility and the resilience that will take them wherever they want to go. Moreover, we hope that they develop warm friendships and gather cherished memories that will last a lifetime.

Responding to the need both locally and globally for more girls to study Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, combined with the skills gained from a strong Arts Programme, we have raised, with your help, more than 10 and a half million dollars to enable us to build a state-of-the-art Innovation Centre, and create an Arts Wing at the School. We are not quite done. In addition to our aim to provide the best learning opportunities, in a state-of-the-art building, we are also looking at how to make our school campus more inclusive and accessible. The addition of an elevator in the Innovation Centre will enable a mobility-compromised person to access 80% of classrooms and learning spaces, including buildings that are more than 100 years old.

As a school, we are continuously looking at how we can best prepare all of our students for successful futures, no matter what they study at university or what careers they may pursue. BHS has always been a forward-thinking school: the only all-girls' school, the first and most experienced IB World school and the only Round Square school in Bermuda. With a legacy of almost 125 years, we consistently inspire excellence and leadership in our students. We are excited about this next chapter and look forward to sharing it with you. You can read all about the new Innovation Centre on pages 18-19 and we encourage you to go to www.leadingtheway.bm to learn more about this project.

We hope you enjoy this Spring issue of the *Torchbearer* magazine.

Linda Parker

Linda Parker
Head of School



LEADING *the* WAY

The BHS Campaign for Innovation

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School Reports

SEPTEMBER

The **Year 7-9 Middle School Prizegiving** ceremony for 2017/2018 was held on September 24th. The guest speaker was Nikki Lynn Marshall '10, an investment analyst for Hudson Structured Capital.

Tomasina Pearman '22 received 2nd Prize in the **Mirrors Annual Student Art Competition**, at Masterworks Museum of Art, for her mixed media entry 'Mary Prince'. She was presented with an Art Supply kit and a \$25 gift voucher, along with a \$350 donation to BHS for her entry. Year 10 and Year 11 Art students responded to the theme of 'Bermuda: Our Community' with Abigail Belfrage's '22 painting of Flatts and Sabree Botelho's '21 depiction of a Bermuda map both selected and framed, along with Tomasina's piece to hang in the Mirror's office for long term display.



25 BHS students, three alumnae, and one parent performed in the 2018 **Gilbert & Sullivan production of Annie**. Natalia Tafur '25 and Mya Maries '24 shared the lead role of Annie.

Madison Quig '19 was named a Commended Student in the **National Merit Scholarship Corporation**, based on her outstanding academic performance in the 2017 PSAT exams. Over 1.6 million students took the test in 2017 and Madison was identified in the top 50,000 scorers.

OCTOBER

Secondary students experienced an incredible special assembly with robotics legend, and one of Business Insider's top 23 most powerful women engineers, **Dr Alana Howard**, from the Georgia Institute of Technology. Dr Howard's relatable manner quickly put the students at ease, removing the "scary stigma" attached to coding and robotics, showing the girls the fun side of what she does with dancing robots, a coding game and a drone. Enthralled by Dr Howard, many of the students stayed afterwards to speak with her, even asking for autographs!



To **celebrate The International Day of the Girl**, Year 8 students spoke online with girls across the US, Canada, Switzerland and Tanzania. They shared their hopes and dreams for the future, and bonded over their love of sports and what it means to be a girl today.

This year's **university tour** saw IB2 students visit Canada to tour Dalhousie, St Mary's, Acadia, Mount St Vincent, McGill, Queen's, Concordia, Trent, UOIT, York, Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier, Brock, Western, Ryerson, and the University of Toronto.

Indigo Adamson '24 had the honour of singing at Government House for the **50th Anniversary Celebrations of The Reading Clinic** (started by BHS Alumna Betty (Gorham) Kitson '35). Indigo sang "Never Enough" from the Greatest Showman, and Puccini's "O Mio Babino Caro".

Staff, students, parents and alumni took part in the **BF&M Breast Cancer Walk** and the Partner Re Fun Run and Walk, creating a sea of pink shirts along each route. BHS also won the BF&M award for school spirit!



The **Year 10-IB2 Senior Prizegiving** ceremony was held on October 15th, with Ms Sara Schroter-Ross '98, a lawyer and BHS Trustee, presenting as the guest speaker.



NOVEMBER

The History Department welcomed two **visiting Oxford lecturers** who spoke with IGCSE and IB History, TOK, Global Politics and Diversity Club students about the



importance of history and the changing nature of knowledge. The lecturers were Wale Adebawwi, Rhodes Professor of Race Relations and Director of the African Studies Centre and Stephen Tuck, Professor of Modern History and Co-Director of the Race and Resistance Research Programme. The lecturers were here as part of the Race and Resistance - Understanding Bermuda Today conference at which BHS IB History students volunteered and participated.

Daragh Maher, **Head of US foreign exchange strategy at HSBC**, spoke to IB Global Politics, Economics and Business Studies students about Brexit, and the possible implications on the economy, politics and international affairs.

During the October break, Quin Gunther '26 and Josie Berry '26 raised \$235 for **Breast Cancer Awareness Month** by baking and selling cupcakes and cookies.

EYP students spent November and December learning about celebrations and special foods, songs, costumes and dances from around the world. Alisha Lehfelt's '32 mother, Nickie, came in and introduced the Loy Krathong festival from Thailand, which occurs every November on the full moon. The girls all tried to speak some Thai and learn a simple part of one of the dances. They were also delighted to see Alisha in traditional dress!

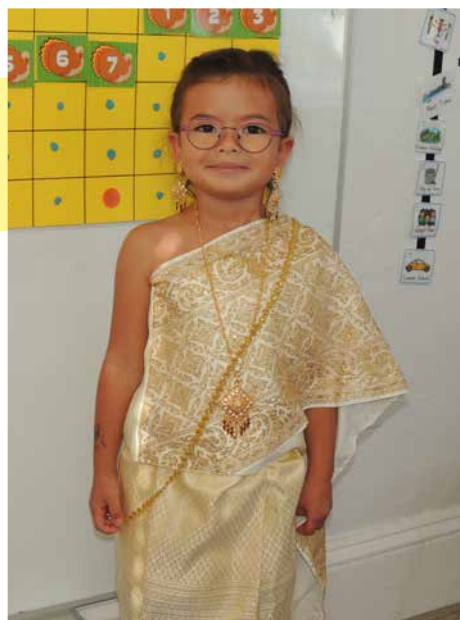
Year 10 students started a new adventure in Gig Rowing with the **Bermuda Pilot Gig Club**. This opportunity was created through the new Year 10 and Year 11 PE Curriculum options designed to increase lifelong participation in sport.

Kameron Young '19 has tracked down a potential genetic basis for the "sweet

tooth" and presented her research in the QEH on November 12th. Kameron then presented her findings on the bitter taste receptor and sugar preference among Bermuda's population at the annual Bermuda Principles Impact Conference alongside her mentor Dr Karika Weldon.

Three teams of IB1 students participated in the **3rd Annual Cardboard Boat Challenge**: "Knot Shore", "The Unsinkables" and "Just Swell". Rhiannon Higgins, Cree Dunne and Leah Thompson of "Just Swell" became the first all-female team to win the competition with a time of 1 minute and 3 seconds.

Twenty BHS students took part in the **2nd Annual Colonial Youth Rugby Day** with the Classic Lions. The girls were put through their paces with rugby drills, learning to kick, throw, run and even tackle some training pads!



As part of the ongoing "**She Leads Speaker Series**", Stacey Ferreira, CEO of Forge and co-author of "2 Billion Under 20: How Millennials Are Breaking Down Age Barriers & Changing the World" presented to BHS students. Ms Ferreira was named as one of Forbes 30 Under 30, and is a regular contributor to numerous publications and news outlets. She had wise advice for the students which included using negative feedback to "fuel the fire" and also how to tell yourself "I should be in this room and there is no reason I can't do this."

Another speaker in the "**She Leads Speaker Series**", alumna Isabel Thompson '14 talked to Primary and Secondary students about her career as a pilot. Isabel spoke about how only 4% of pilots are women, and that BHS has two alumnae pilots, which made the girls very proud.



The **TA Quiz Night** raised over \$4,500 for student bursaries and was a fun night for all. Paula Harrison organised the event and teachers Stuart Curtis and Julie Gunther '88 acted as Quiz Masters.

Madison Thompson '19 and Natalie Calderon '19 won the **Rocket Pitch competition**, put on by the Bermuda Economic Development Corporation [BEDC] and Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative of Bermuda [YEI], earning \$3500 to invest in their business idea for an app that scans food in your fridge and then suggests meal options to help minimise food waste. Out of the 12 semi-finalists, three teams were from BHS.

Sierra De Sousa '23, placed 5th in the **Bermuda Teen Idol** competition. Sierra sang "Grenade" by Bruno Mars and "I'll Never Love Again" by Lady Gaga.



BHS students enjoyed phenomenal success at the **2018 Bermuda Debate Society's National Debate Competition**, winning every team and individual award possible!

Overall Senior Results :

A Team, National Champions: Cree Dunn, Kristy Sanchez, Gisella Filice
 B Team, Runners Up: Linnea Kuruvilla, Hailey O'Donnell, Salayah Stange
 Best Senior Debater in Impromptu: Kristy Sanchez
 Most Impressive Senior Debater: Salayah Stange
 Best Senior Debater (Victoria Cox Award): Kristy Sanchez
 2nd Senior Debater: Cree Dunn
 3rd Best Senior Debater: Salayah Stange
 4th Best Senior Debater: Gisella Filice
 5th Best Senior Debater: Hailey O'Donnell

Overall Middle School Results:

A Team, National Champions: Elodie Manning, Grace McFadden, Christina de Kock
 B Team, Runners Up: Za'Nyah Khan, Marli Spriggs, Sandtasia Roy:
 Best Middle School Debater: Sandtasia Roy
 2nd Best Middle School Debater: Christina de Kock
 3rd Best Middle School Debater: Grace McFadden
 4th Best Middle School Debater: Elodie Manning
 5th Best Middle School Debater: Marli Spriggs

The **BHS Fall Fair, "Let the Games Begin"** was a resounding success, and great fun was had by all. The PTA committee and parents put a lot of work into the fair, creating giant sized versions of popular games like Minecraft, Twister and Life and even a giant gingerbread house for the Candyland game! The Annual Bake Off was back with a mouth-watering selection of game-themed cakes. Arima Turner '26 took home the "Best in Show" prize for her Mario Brothers inspired cake.

DECEMBER

Students across the school participated all week in the **Hour of Code**. In one activity Digital Leader, Ashlyn Lee '20, introduced Code-a-pillars to the EYP classes and the girls were challenged to get the Code-a-pillar from point A to point B. They used their critical thinking and problem solving skills to create the necessary code.



The **2018 Holiday Bazaar** really felt like a Christmas market this year! Under festive tents and bright sunshine, it was a gorgeous day to support local artisans and small businesses. Over \$12,000 was raised for the School and we thank all vendors for taking part.

BHS essay writers participated in the **2018 Dr Stanley Ratteray Memorial Christmas Short Story Contest**. Ava Gibson '23 placed 2nd in the U13 category for "A Little Bird Told Me" and won \$250. Kristy Sanchez '22 placed 3rd in the U18 category for "It's Human Nature".



Millie Lewis '23, won the **Government House Christmas Card Design Competition** for her drawing of a Bermuda tree frog, 'Whistling you a Merry Christmas'.

Throughout the Holiday season, the BHS family collected food to donate to local charities, and students completed chores to raise money to purchase toys to help those in need in the local community. A small group of Year 8 students took on an extra mission to bring food and comfort to people with dementia. Over weeks of packing groceries and bake sales, they managed to **raise over \$2,500!**



Four Primary students took part in the **BMDS Christmas Show "Teddy"**; Lillian Faria '27, Cristina Manguson '26, Kendall Burrows '25, Jaydi Burrows '25.

Several BHS students performed in In Motion's, **The Nutcracker**. Genevieve Bradley '22, took centre stage as Clara, along with other BHS dancers in main roles: Olivia Currelly '22, Camille Lesage '22 and Linnea Kuruvilla '21.

Year 6 students raised over \$750 for the **Coalition for the Protection of Children** which was able to purchase much-needed toiletry items for those in need.

JANUARY

Year 6 students sat the Mathematics and English examinations on November 19th with the **Susan Palmer Constable scholarship** being awarded to Kalea Walker and merit awards given to Izzy Johnston and Jasmine Grainger.

BHS celebrated **Martin Luther King Jr Day** with a purple grub day. BHS has adopted purple as its "kindness colour" and it is worn throughout the year to remind everyone of the importance of thinking of others, and of being kind and inclusive.

Parent and student workshops were held in January with visiting experts, Sheryl



Hawkins from **Life Synergy for Youth**, and Deana Puccio, from **The Raising Awareness and Prevention Project**. Ms Hawkins covered topics relating to social media and bullying while Ms Puccio spoke to the school community about responsible online behaviour.

Y7-10 students who were not involved in the school play, *Mamma Mia!*, had a day of community service and activities. They made soup for the **Salvation Army** and prepared bags of personal hygiene items for families in need through Grateful Bread. They also learned some new skills such as needlepoint and cooking and they painted various art projects around campus. (For more on *Mamma Mia!* go to page 16)

FEBRUARY

Marie-Sophie Brackstone '19 was selected to play violin at a week-long intensive at the **Stern Auditorium/**

Perelman Stage at Carnegie Hall through the High School Honors Performance Series. 700 students were selected from 12,000 and she was chosen to play in the string orchestra. Marie-Sophie says, "The journey of getting here has included many realisations of the wonders of practice, perseverance and going after every performance opportunity in order to become a better musician. Playing at Carnegie Hall is my greatest dream."

Our littlest BHS girls invited the Year 6 classes to **Curling Cottage for their Pet Show & Tell**. They did so well talking to the "big girls" and answered all the questions they were asked - a great way for them to build their confidence.

MARCH

Alexis Lodge '22 and Katrina Rance '22 were two of the winners of the **Bermuda Police Service International Women's Day essay competition** where entrants were asked to answer the question, "What does female empowerment mean to you?"

10 BHS staff members walked the plank for the **Pirates of Bermuda!** All funds raised went towards BHS students being able to take part in the Sloop voyage.

Students took part in the **International Women's Day** celebrations at City Hall on March 8th and reflected on how to build a more gender-balanced world.

BHS and HSBC announced **SHE LEADS: A Real Word Readiness Programme**.

This new programme is the first private/public partnership of its kind and will inspire and equip students from BHS, Berkeley Institute and Cedarbridge Academy with tools and frameworks to enable them to take ownership of their education, careers and lives.





The Future Has Begun

On January 11th, 2019 BHS held the official ground-breaking ceremony for the new Innovation Centre.

The event was held on the site of the new building, and was attended by invited students, staff, Board Members, parents, alumni and friends of BHS who supported the fundraising efforts which have raised \$10.7million towards the ambitious project. Also in attendance were Government officials; the Minister of Education and Workforce Development, the Hon. Diallo Rabain, JP, MP, Shadow Education Minister, Mr Cole Simons, and the Commissioner of Education, Mrs Kalmar Richards. Representatives from local architectural firm Linberg & Simmons and construction firm BCM McAlpine also joined in the proceedings.

Guests were welcomed by Head of School, Linda Parker with remarks from Minister Rabain, and Board Chair,

“This cathedral of learning will act as an inspiration to a generation of students.”

Mariette Savoie, before being given a virtual tour of the new facility.

Head of School, Linda Parker said, “This ambitious project was envisioned in response to the local and global need for more girls to study Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, in combination with the Arts. We have a responsibility to prepare our students for the jobs of today as well as to anticipate future trends. I hope you will agree that this, cathedral of learning, that we embark

upon constructing today, will act as an inspiration to a generation of students, and is truly fit for the 21st Century.”

Local architects Linberg & Simmons, in collaboration with education architects from Gensler in the United States, designed the new building, and have re-imagined new spaces in the adjacent Butterfield Building to house the Arts Wing. The Innovation Centre will include five new Science laboratories, two Computer Science and Robotics labs, a MakerSpace, a Learning Commons and Library, and a Leadership Centre for Girls. Renovations include a Blackbox Theatre and an Arts Wing connected to the Innovation Centre that will house the upgraded Music and Visual Art departments, with an outdoor “Idea Hub” linking the Visual Arts with the MakerSpace. Local firm BCM McAlpine will oversee the construction, which is due to be completed in the Fall of 2020.



Reflections from a lifetime at BHS

In Tina Harris '85, having spent most her life at BHS, as student and member of the faculty, is uniquely positioned to look both forward and backward at the school. In June this year, BHS will bid a fond farewell to its Primary teacher (1993-2002) and Head of Primary (2003-2019), as she retires from the school and pursues a new venture that will provide educational services to families.

Torchbearer asked Ms Harris to share the insights, lessons and favourite moments from her time at BHS.

Torchbearer: How have expectations and ambitions changed for girls entering BHS today compared to when you entered the School?

Ms Harris: The BHS of today is more student centred than when I attended. I see teachers and students working together, laughing together and engaging with each through shared experiences. There is a more personal approach. I believe that BHS always had high expectations and ambitions for its students, however, today, we offer a wide variety of options and experiences for students to pursue, counsel them in their choices of subjects, programmes and tertiary education and open the world of possibilities to them.

TB: What is your main takeaway about BHS and its role in education in Bermuda?

Ms Harris: BHS has remained true to its beginnings by continuing to offer a single sex education to girls up to Year 11. While we maintain high academic standards, it is my belief that we also create an environment where all students are given the opportunity to be successful in their area(s) of interest, whether it is sports, music, drama, art or another field.

Some of our alumni are doing amazing things with their lives providing us with a plethora of role models for our students. It is through these role models that we are able to demonstrate that the education we are providing the girls will allow them to pursue their dreams - and that they can dream BIG!

TB: Describe the rewards of being in the classroom and the Head of Primary.

Ms Harris: In the classroom I enjoyed



Global Impact: BHS Students who attended the UNIS-UN Conference were able to attend the Global Assembly at the UN Building in New York, which left a lasting impression on their perspective of global decision-making.

getting to know the different students and developing their knowledge, skills and understanding. It was rewarding to see the "Ah-ha" moments. Researching and developing materials for lessons and finding different ways to teach something was also stimulating and engaging. In the latter years in Year 6, I specialised in teaching Math. This gave me the opportunity to focus on one subject area and become more of an "expert" (although I will use that term loosely). This is an area that I still enjoy working in when I get the opportunity. Head of Primary has also been stimulating. I have been able to hone my strengths, and to develop new ones. Curriculum development has been one of my favourite areas to work on. I had a

complete picture of the curriculum and over the years have worked closely with all of the year groups to develop their specific areas.

One of the biggest differences between the two roles is the uncertainty of each day. In the classroom, I had my timetable, and for the most part, the day was scheduled. As Head of Primary, I have had to be ready for any eventuality, and be able to shift gears at a moment's notice; one minute I can be working on schedules or observations, and the next be called upon to help sort out an issue. Being flexible and quick thinking is often necessary.

TB: What are you most proud of from your time at BHS?

Ms Harris: There are several things that I am proud of, however, most recently I



“ I will miss seeing the students everyday... their enthusiasm is refreshing and their excitement is palpable.”



am so pleased by the paradigm shift, facilitated by the introduction of the International Primary Curriculum and the focus on the skills for the twenty-first century. This has brought inquiry based learning to the forefront of our teaching and learning. Working with The Institute for Excellence in STEM (TIES) and Julie Hasfjord has put us in a place where the students are enthusiastic about their learning and developing the soft skills that will hold them in good stead, both in school and out in the workforce. The Primary Department teachers have embraced the ideals behind STEAM and have modelled the way by challenging their own thinking, taking risks and trying new teaching and learning strategies.

TB: Please share a favourite anecdote from your time as Head of Primary?

Ms Harris: Occasionally, young students might have some difficulty settling into the routines, sharing with others or may upset others, as young children do. I would be asked to have a “chat” with them about their behaviour as they spend some “quiet time” in my office. One girl went home and shared that she made a new friend that day, and when asked who it was, explained that it was Ms Harris and that she got to spend time in my office instead of the classroom. While her parents were mortified, she was quite happy that she got “Ms Harris time”. As they get older, the students soon realise that “Ms Harris time” is not a privilege. Then there is the speculation around my ‘Sports Day’ shirt, that has each of the 4 houses represented, and which house

I am in. The girls do not believe that I could possibly be neutral and believe that there is a hidden clue somewhere.

TB: What will you miss the most?

Ms Harris: I will miss seeing the students everyday; the cheery greetings in the hallway, the sharing of random stories, hearing them discuss the things they are doing and what they are looking forward to that day. Their enthusiasm is refreshing and their excitement is palpable.

I will miss working alongside the parents. The relationships I have built with many families have been important. I appreciate the many volunteers who help us on a daily basis, supporting the school with their time. I have worked with several Primary PTA Committees and each and everyone of them has been an example of parents who genuinely care for the school and their daughters’ education. I find I do not have the words to adequately express how grateful I am to these parents and what an honour it was to work alongside them.

I will miss the amazing group of staff that I work with. The Primary staff are a phenomenal group of people who are supportive and thoughtful. I will miss the camaraderie. The Administrative staff are the backbone of the school, without whom I would be lost some days. Each one of them provides support in different ways but I always knew I could count on each of them for help when I needed it.

TB: What will you miss the least?

Ms Harris: Meetings.

TB: If you could share with parents three observations or lessons from

your time at BHS what would they be?

Ms Harris: The Primary years are a time where a love for learning is developed. However, this is not done through extra work, a focus on grades or pushing through skills. It develops through experiences, engaging activities, shared time and productive struggle. All students should have appropriate challenges placed before them. Trust that this is happening and is in the best interest of your daughter’s learning. Help your daughters (children) develop independence; give them chores and let them do things for themselves. Hold them responsible. This cannot be emphasised enough. When children have everything done for them, they find it more difficult to work collaboratively, think critically and solve problems for themselves. Hold your daughters accountable and do not rescue them. Let them make mistakes and help them learn from them - especially when it comes to their relationships. At sometime, everyone makes a mistake, is unkind or does something they wish they could take back. Accept the consequences, discuss why there is a consequence and what she could do differently. Making excuses or deflecting blame does not help her learn life’s lessons.

TB: Any advice for the next Head of Primary?

Ms Harris: Be flexible and collaborative but do not be afraid to make the final decision. Be available; to staff, students and parents. Most importantly, take time for yourself every evening and on weekends.

BHS ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENT

BHS continues to embrace and celebrate the accomplishments of our student athletes. Whether they win, lose or draw, there are important skills and relationships built in the sports arena. In the first two terms of this school year, a number of students excelled both locally and internationally. We are very proud of their athletic achievements, as we are of all students with the courage and spirit to represent their school, and themselves, on the field of play.

INTER-SCHOOL COMPETITIONS



Cross-Country

Primary Under 9s

3rd place overall
(Top three runners) Jaylen Lewis 7th Maddy Schindel 14th, Sienna Outtrim 22nd

Over 9s

5th place overall
(Top three runners) Jorgia White 16th, Rayna Abbott 17th

Middle School

Under 13s

3rd place overall
(Top three runners) Amira Strong 9th, Camryn Lines 10th, Ella Younie 14th

Over 13s

2nd place overall
(Top three runners) Anna Marcotte 4th, Anya Podgaitis 6th, Millie Lewis 10th

Senior School

U16 Blue

3rd place overall
(Top three runners) Meron Simmons 2nd, Doireann O'Shaughnessy 20th, Genevieve Lau 21st

U16 Yellow

5th place overall
(Top three runners) Averie Mowbray Cramer 33rd, Tana van der berg Tejedor 27th, Kelsey Amos 34th

Football

The BHS Primary, Middle and Senior School teams had another busy season competing in both the 6-a-side and BSSF League competitions. The Primary team can be commended for making the League semi-finals after an overtime win vs St David's Primary. In the semis they lost 2-0 to Saltus.



Netball

Primary

The Primary netball team placed 3rd overall out of 17 schools.
BHS v Victor Scott 11-2
BHS v Dalton E Tucker 3-1
BHS v Somersfield 3-1
BHS v Saltus 3-1
Semi-finals they lost to West Pembroke 4-3.

Secondary

The U13 Middle School Netball team finished undefeated in the BSSF league continuing on from the previous season. The Over 13 Team placed 2nd overall in the BSSF League, and were crowned BSSF Middle School Tournament Champions at Bernard's Park. The Senior Team placed joint 3rd with Cedarbridge Academy.

Swimming

Primary

BHS defended their title as Primary Swimming Champions again! Overall, the girls placed 1st in the Under 10s, 2nd in the Under 9s and 3rd in the Over 10s.

BHS - 152pts
Saltus - 146pts
Warwick - 143pts

Under 9s

2nd in division with 35pts
(Top performances) Olivia Healey 1st breaststroke, Madison Schindel 2nd backstroke, 3rd freestyle, Ellis Champion 3rd backstroke

Under 10s

1st in division with 69pts
(Top performances) Arabella Derbyshire 1st butterfly, backstroke and freestyle, Olivia Gazzard 1st breast, Lilla Dudley Pun 2nd breaststroke, Jaydi Burrows 3rd back

Over 10s

3rd in division with 48 points



(Top performances) Ava Pedro 3rd butterfly, freestyle and IM, Jessica Allitt 3rd backstroke, Ella Bedford 1st breaststroke

Middle & Secondary

The Middle school team were the Champions too!

BHS - 144

Warwick Academy - 101

Somersfield - 88

Under 13s

2nd in Division with 68 points

(Top performances) Sienna Mehta 3rd breaststroke, Giada

Dudley-Pun 1st IM, 2nd freestyle

Over 13s

1st in Division with 76 points

(Top performances) Natalie Gazzard 2nd butterfly, 3rd IM, Jocelyn Manuel 3rd butterfly, Danielle Stegmann 3rd backstroke, 3rd freestyle, Zorena Anderson 3rd backstroke, Hailey Moss 2nd breaststroke

Over 16

2nd place overall, girls combined U16 & O16 3rd place (Top performances) Madison Quig 3rd butterfly, Chloe Castree 2nd backstroke, 3rd freestyle, Emma Kittleson 2nd freestyle, 3rd backstroke, Genevieve Lau 1st breaststroke, Doireann O'Shaughnessy 2nd breaststroke, 2nd IM

Volleyball

The Middle School Team were the league champions, but the Senior Volleyball Team lost in the finals to MSA

ALL-STARS

BHS athletes were selected as **BSSF All-Stars** in Football, Netball and Volleyball

Primary School Football: Skye Lewis, Isabel Welch, Cristina Mangusson

Middle School Football: Camryn Lines, Zorena Anderson, Paisley Garside, Ella Younie

Senior School Football: Lara Backeberg, Layla Kurt, Rhiannon Higgins

Primary School Netball: Arima Turner, Ava Pedro, Rayna Abbott

Middle School Netball: Christina DeKock, Nahjae Rayner, Samai Dunn, Cheyenne Tavares

Senior School Netball: Chrysda Smith, Maya Crockwell, Rhiannon Higgins, Nisaiah Berkeley

Volleyball: Layla Kurt, Olivia Taylor, Sophia Stevens

EXTRA-CURRICULARS AND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

The **BHS Football Club (BHSFC)** once again competed in the Kappa Classic football tournament, which featured 1300 local youth footballers. The Club entered two teams in the U9s and one team each in the U11s and U15s. All the teams played well over the four day event with the U15 girls reaching the semi-finals, losing to BPro 2-0 and the U9 BHSFC Wizards reaching the final, losing to Dandy Stars 1-0 in a very closely contested match.

Millie Lewis '23 was the top local female sailor and second overall at the Bermuda Open and National Optimist Championship, competing with sailors from around the world. This regatta was a qualifying regatta and Millie, **Laura Hupman '23** and **Ava Adams '23**, have been invited to go to Chile in 2019.

Genevieve Lau '21 earned a spot on the podium at the 2019 O'pen Bic World Championships Auckland, New Zealand in January. She finished third in the under-17 girls age group and eleventh in an overall fleet of 69. In March, she took part in the O'pen Bic North Americans over the weekend in San Diego, CA. She was named the Female North American Champion 2019 and placed 2nd overall out of 86 sailors.

Amelia Othman '22 and **Taylor Hines '21** have both qualified for the 2019 Carifta Games to be held in April 2019. Taylor will take part in the 200M and Amelia in high jump. Both girls competed in the AAU Indoor Championships in Maryland in March, and Amelia brought home the gold for High Jump and Taylor won two silver medals for the 200M and 400M.

BHS was well represented in the Front Street Mile In the Secondary School race **Meron Simons '22** placed 6th. In Middle School **Fasika Simons '24** placed 11th and **Sarah Lawrence '24** 12th. In the Primary School Girl's race, **Arima Turner '26** placed 6th, **Ava Pedro '26** placed 21st and **Jaylen Lewis '28** was 19th.

Kayla Calvey '26 participated in the March Madness gymnastics meet in NJ in March. She competed on beam, floor, vault and bars and placed 3rd out of 13 gymnasts on bar.

Courtney Bromby '19 represented Bermuda in an international jumping competition in Quito, Ecuador. In the 1.20m junior jumping division she placed 7th in the 2nd qualifiers and 4th in the B finals. She also competed in the FEI World Jumping Challenge winning the overall Category B division in Bermuda. She has been a part of the Bermuda team along with having several other wins in 2019 local jumper shows over the season.



BHS has a new Head of PE and Sport



In September 2018, Stephanie Barnwell joined the BHS faculty as the Head of Physical Education and Sport. Mrs Barnwell hails from Hill Head, near Portsmouth, on the South Coast of England. She holds a BA in PE with Qualified Teacher Status, and is midway through her Master in Leadership within Education.

The list of sports Mrs Barnwell participated in while at school is impressive and she has sport qualifications in an equally impressive array, including Ultimate Frisbee! She was also a Regional Netball Player and an International Hockey Player for seven years. Since arriving in Bermuda she has joined the local Netball team Lindo's Tigers.

Off the field, she enjoys running on the Railway Trails, snorkeling and wildlife and says she really enjoys Bermuda's beaches and hopes to learn to SCUBA dive.

Torchbearer asked Mrs Barnwell to share more about her career and her vision for PE and Sport at BHS.

Torchbearer: What led you to become a PE teacher?

Stephanie Barnwell: I loved my PE lessons at school. I always wanted to help people and make a positive difference in people's lives. Since competing at

"I strongly believe that playing sports and being active supports the academic curriculum and well-being of students."

the highest level in hockey, I believe I have a lot of experience to help youth in sport reach their potential. I am also a firm believer that PE is key in developing character.

TB: Describe the importance of PE as a school subject and how it fits with the overall academic curriculum?

SB: Physical Education and Sport teaches life lessons in a way that no other subject can. Just a few of the many aspects are: fun, passion, respect, discipline, friendship, leadership, resilience, teamwork, confidence, mental toughness, character development, commitment, integrity, attitude, accountability, motor skills, knowledge and behaviours of healthy active living, physical fitness, sportsmanship, self-efficacy and emotional intelligence.

There are many studies that have shown that exercise increases blood flow to the brain and helps the body build more connections between nerves, which leads to increased concentration, enhanced memory, stimulated creativity and better-developed problem solving skills.

In short, playing sports helps your brain grow and makes it work better. I strongly believe that playing sports and being active supports the academic curriculum and well-being of students.

TB: What are your impressions of school sports at BHS?

SB: The BHS sports teams have been very successful in certain areas. The parents and volunteers play a key role in the amount of sporting opportunities that BHS offers students. The students are very coachable and commit themselves to a variety of activities.

TB: Is there anything in particular you are focusing on or would like to see improve for the athletes and teams that represent BHS?

Mrs Downey: As a PE department we are currently working on our Mission Statement and core values. I will be informing all stakeholders (parents, students and staff), of these before the end of this academic year. One thing I can reveal is that we have

already started working with the students at BHS on positivity. We want to ensure that all sporting experiences are positive ones and that we develop better people first, and then better athletes.

TB: Do you have a favourite motivational quote or song?

SB: Quote: "Do something today that you will be proud of tomorrow."
Song: 'Ain't No Mountain High Enough' by Marvin Gaye.

TB: What is one thing that might surprise people about you?

SB: I chose to quit my international hockey career because I was burnt out and I lost the love for the game. I have since regained it, thankfully! However, this experience has molded my outlook on youth sport today.



SPORTS DAY

UPPER PRIMARY RESULTS

1st – Hastings 420.5 points
2nd – Tothill 384 points
3rd – Middleton 369 points
4th – Barr 302 points

Top Performers

Year 4 – Jaylen Lewis
Year 5 – Somers Estwanik and Olivia Younie
Year 6 – Arima Turner

SECONDARY RESULTS

1st – Middleton 636 points
2nd – Barr 575.5 points
3rd – Hastings 492 points
4th – Tothill 435.5 points

Top Performers

Under 12 – Camryn Lines
Under 13 – Sarah Lawrence
Over 13 – Erin Kelly
Year 10 – Meron Simons and Nisaiah Berkeley
Year 11 – Miniya Wainwright

Margaret Davidge Cup Fastest Runner – Aaliyah Fadda

Sandra Spencer Cup Best Discus Throw – Keiasa Busby

Victrix Ludorum Cup Best Overall Performer – Sarah Lawrence and Erin Kelly

New Records

Aaliyah Fadda, U16 100M, 13.13 seconds
Nisaiah Berkeley, U16 Discus, 27M
Keiasa Busby, O16 Discus, 27.9M



Mamma Mia!

With the hook of ABBA's classic songs and a delightful ensemble performance, BHS's presentation of Mamma Mia! had the staff, students and audience all singing from the same song sheet.

Show Director Jane (Hammond) Thorpe '87, P'25 says the songs of any musical will get "stuck in your head at some point" but this happened much more quickly and on a wider scale with Mamma Mia!

"The cast picked up on the music much quicker and were eager to learn the songs," she says. "As the music is well known, even those outside of the cast were singing along in the corridors!" Set on a Greek island paradise, Mamma



Mia! tells the tale of Sophie, played by Ava Rosser '23, a young woman on the eve of her wedding eager to discover the identity of her birth father.

Unbeknownst to her mother, Donna, played by Lauren Mendes '19, Sophie invites three men from Donna's past to the wedding in hopes of discovering which one is her father.

What she learns, during the heart-warming and often hilarious tale, is that family, and indeed our own identities, are not just defined by biology.

Mrs Thorpe says the cast discussed this and the other themes of the show, particularly the issues as they relate to females.

"We talked about what defines a family," explains Mrs Thorpe. "We also talked about equality and had conversations, particularly with the older cast members, about how judgments on women are negative for the amount of relationships they have and how men are judged positively for the same thing.

"We looked at how the women in the production are empowered by their own choices, and the right they have to make their own choices."

Fittingly, strong performances from the show's two female leads helped drive home these messages.

Both Ava and Lauren have been regular participants in the school's productions, but Mamma Mia! was the first time they had each stepped into lead roles.

"This is Ava's third production," says Mrs Thorpe. "Each year she has been

committed in all rehearsals and this year was no exception. She always strived to achieve her best and develop her character of Sophie."

Meanwhile Lauren's previous roles have included minor characters, being a "handy dandy helper" for the Creative Team and as back stage manager for last year's Shrek the Musical.

"Every year she has strived to be part of the show and was so excited to be cast as Donna," says Mrs Thorpe. "That excitement was wonderful to see."

Mrs Thorpe also noted the performances of Lizzie Luckashvili '19, as Tanya, and Cassie Furtado '19, as Rosie. Playing Donna's former band-mates and best friends, Tanya and Rosie provide emotional support, and comic relief, as Donna works through the travails of her daughter's wedding and the arrival of Sophie's three (potential) fathers.

Cassie's Rosie also shows no hesitation in taking the "lead" in her pursuit of Bill, culminating in a hilarious performance of "Take a Chance On Me" in which her intentions are laid bare and Bill, though clearly intimidated, eventually succumbs to her charms.

After being cast as Shrek in last year's production, Mrs Thorpe says Cassie's performance highlighted her continuing development on stage: "Cassie demonstrated in her Drama GCSE what a strong performer she is. As her confidence in her own ability, particularly her singing, has grown, it has allowed her to improvise and further develop her





“We looked at how the women in the production are empowered by their own choices, and the right they have to make their own choices.”



roles on stage. She takes direction and then flies with it." Mrs Thorpe was equally delighted with Lizzie's performance and growth as a performer, noting that: "Lizzie has been a stalwart for many years in the ensembles. She has always been reliable and has a strong singing voice."

"We were delighted that this year she was able to create the role of Tanya; her dedication and hard work really paid off!" Of course, all these leading ladies needed the male counterparts to help tell the tale. All three male leads were played by female students, and their portrayals were delivered more through technique than make-up or wardrobe. The three "dads"; Salayah Stange '22 (as Sam), Natalie Calderon '20 (as Harry) and Christina de Kock '23 (as Bill), spent time honing their body movements and voices to portray the men and, interestingly, were not overly made-up to appear more masculine.

"We deliberately didn't make them look like men by putting them in short wigs or facial hair," says Mrs Thorpe. "We focus on teaching the girls how to use their lower register, their intonation and also to use their body language in a less feminine way. Even in the dancing we changed some steps to reflect how male dancers dance."

"Something must have worked as apparently some people thought two of the principal men were boys, despite their long hair!" Backing these central characters was an impressive cast of minor characters and the ensemble. In fact, one of the particular challenges of *Mamma Mia!* was the sheer size of the supporting cast, with 81 members in total, plus all the back stage personnel.

"Our aim is to try to include all those who want to be involved," says Mrs Thorpe. "Getting that many of them to work together took time and energy but we feel it was, on the whole, successful. They all worked so hard and to watch (them) grow from the humble beginnings to their finale moments makes all the Creative Team feel so proud."

"It takes a lot of people to put on a show and every one of them is key in some way."

As such an across-school project Musical Director, Dave Pitman, says the impact on the students extends well beyond the stage or the life span of the production.

"Our casts have students from Year 7-IB2 and it is so refreshing to see how the younger girls look up to the older, graduating students and how the older ones take them under their wing without a moment's hesitation."

"Friendships are borne through musical theatre that transcend age!"



Overseas trips to expand young minds



"I wanted an experience that would change my perspective and help me learn outside of a traditional format," says Anjelina '22. "Before we got to the conference I was expecting something like a school with lectures. Luckily, I got what I wanted instead of what I expected."

Doireann had similar expectations of sitting in lectures and learning about diversity but was surprised at how interactivity at the conference led to new experiences and knowledge.

"I did not expect to go as in-depth as we did," she says. "As a first-time participant, I was thrilled to meet other people who are adopted, and through our conversations I got to see how we are all different, but the same."

Ariadne expanded on this theme sharing one particularly moving experience: "For one of the exercises in our family groups we stared into someone else's fixed eyes for 10 seconds. For me, it was something I will never forget. My partner and I saw the beauty in and behind each other's eyes, and in that moment, we loved each other. She was family."

The three students say they hope to introduce affinity groups to BHS as a way of growing student and faculty trust and cooperation. These groups will focus on SDLC student-led discussions on "Family Structure" for Y7-9 and Y10-IB1 students.

Colonial Games, Atlanta, GA

by Grace McFadden '24

On February 20, 2019 10 BHS students, in Y8 and Y9, together with two teachers, departed Bermuda for Atlanta, Georgia. We traveled to Holy Innocents' Episcopal School to take part in the Colonial Games, and stay with host families.

The Games, which were based around STEAM activities and the Suzanne Collin's book "The Hunger Games", consisted of setting up a colony made up of eight students, with the aim of making your colony the best. Specific activities teams undertook included building a parachute using tissue paper, making a harmonica out of popsicle sticks and balancing six nails on the top of just one nail.

My favorite part of the Games was going to the "market" where we had the opportunity to trade with other colonies, as well as buy items for our growing colony. You could also go to war with another colony or create alliances. Two students from BHS were

Student Diversity Leadership Conference, Nashville, TN

From November 28th – December 1st, Director of Admissions and Inclusion, Kurte Loescher P'08, accompanied three Y10 students, Doireann O'Shaughnessy, Ariadne Ward and Anjelina Chandrasekaran to Nashville, Tennessee, for the 25th Student Diversity Leadership Conference (SDLC).

Conference facilitators used dialogue, experiential learning and cross-cultural and interpersonal exchange to educate students on global citizenship and ethical leadership, with the aim of helping them design effective strategies for social justice and develop the practice of empathy in action. Over the course of the conference, the students were divided into "Family Groups" and "Home Groups" which allowed for open dialogue and sharing of experiences.

All first time attendees, the girls arrived with preconceived expectations but described their experience as "unique, colourful, vibrant and welcoming", and left with a desire to bring what they learned back to BHS.





on the team that finished second overall.

After the Games ended we spent the weekend with our host families exploring Atlanta. Different families did different things, including visiting the Coca Cola factory, a trampoline park, an escape room, going on a four mile hike by the river and attending an NBA basketball game.

On the last day, we visited the Georgia Aquarium and the Centre for Civil and Human Rights. Both of these places were very interesting and educational.

The Colonial Games taught me how to work well in a team, plan strategically, negotiate and barter with other people as well as how to think on my feet. Staying with the host family was a new experience for me, and I thoroughly enjoyed my time in Atlanta and cannot wait for the students to come to Bermuda in June to take part in BHS's STEAM Week activities.

UNIS-UN Conference, New York, NY

In March, seven IB1 students had an amazing experience when they traveled to New York to attend the UNIS-UN Conference titled, "Ripple Effect: The Water Crisis".

The UNIS-UN Conference is the largest student-run conference held in the United Nations General assembly, with over 500 students attending from five continents. The 2019 conference examined the role of water in relation to sustainability and geopolitics, and looked at how growing demand, climate change and increasing pollution are affecting water security.

"Overall, I learned so much from this conference," says Cerra Simmons '20. "The speakers and the workshops brought our attention to the widespread impact that the lack of water can bring."

Natalie Calderon '20 said she also learned a tremendous amount from the workshops and speakers at the conference and that just being in such an important place further enhanced the value of the experience: "Being able to sit in the UN General Assembly, where some of the world's most influential people have spoken and many important decisions have been

"I was extremely moved by her images and I agree with her sentiment that 'positive is empowering'."

made, was surreal. I will truly never forget it."

Reflecting on the messages of the various speakers, Natalie shared her thoughts on the knowledge and insight she gained at the conference.

"Galila Gray spoke on the first day and she represented the non profit 'Charity Water'. This is an organisation that helps to fund sustainable projects in countries where water deficit and water quality are already issues. I found her speech to be empowering and it opened my eyes to a new method of sustainability. I like that they use their funds to help pre-existing charities because it allows for a community to hold on to their independence and integrity.

Seth M. Siegel, an author and activist, said that the water crisis has been giving us warning signs for decades now. He also stated that there is still time, and he is adamant that if we can spread awareness and band together, there is still hope of preventing what will otherwise be a global catastrophe. I left this presentation feeling enlightened and proud to have been part of the conversation. I hope in the years to come more will join the fight and help this cause.

I also enjoyed listening to Zaria Forman. She is an activist for climate change, and she spreads her message through art. She uses chalk pastels to create massive pieces that realistically illustrate the locations that will be affected by climate change. I was extremely moved by her images and I agree with her sentiment that "positive is empowering". She focuses her attention on the beauty of nature in hopes that it will allow people to realise what is at stake if we continue our materialistic and consumerist lifestyles. I found her presentation to be the most impactful, and I hope that one day I can make a change in the world doing what I love just like her."



Building Spirit on the Bermuda Sloop

For the past 11 years, BHS Year 9 students have had the opportunity to spend a week aboard the Spirit of Bermuda for a transformative “Bermuda Sloop” experience. The girls learn invaluable skills onboard the ship – the physics of sailing, navigation, the science of buoyancy and the importance of teamwork. A recent participant, Marli Spriggs ’23 sums up her experience, “It was a truly unforgettable experience and every day was fun and exciting. When we first arrived we were split into three groups: Forewatch, Mizzenwatch and Mainwatch. We learned about the different parts of the boat in our watch groups and, on the first day, we went sailing; learning how to dress the winches, put up and use the sails, steer the boat and tie important knots.”

Given that students must pay for their voyage on the Sloop, various fundraising initiatives are put in place throughout the year to help cover costs. The whole school participates in pirate grub days, and brave staff offer up themselves to become hostages and walk the plank into the chilly waters of Hamilton Harbour each March. They have raised thousands of dollars over the years to both support the Bermuda Sloop Foundation and ensure as many students take part in this life-changing voyage as possible. BHS has also benefitted enormously from generous individual sponsorship over the years and most recently from Bermuda Container Line. This financial support means that students who otherwise would not be able to can have the opportunity to learn at sea.



A parent who gets as good as she gives!

Parents are often the unsung heroes at a school, volunteering their time and talents to make sure their children, and all students, have the very best educational experience. BHS is no different, with a wide array of parents who actively participate in making BHS better.

Katie (Cooper) Berry '93, P'24, '26, '31 is one such parent. Katie ran the School's Primary PTA for five years, organising and running activities and events that enhance the School and its community with, as she is quick to point out, a huge amount of help from other like-minded parents.

In 2018, Katie was awarded the Francis Tucker Zuill Award at the annual Alumni Association AGM, for outstanding service to the School. This honour means Katie will carry the Torch past alumni at the Torch Ceremony this year.

Clearly community-minded, Katie also works with the Bermuda National Trust on their Architectural Heritage Series, researching Bermuda's oldest homes and is the Chair of the Kaleidoscope Arts Foundation board.

And when she does find time for herself? "I love to read, learn new things, spend time with friends, go to the beach and cook." Here, *Torchbearer* gets to know more about one of BHS's many parent volunteers.

Torchbearer: When did you join the PTA and why did you want to become involved?

Katie Berry: I did not set out to join the PTA as I was not sure it was something I wanted to do! I had a false sense of what it meant. I started by just saying yes to helping in different ways I could - baking, donating, driving; the little things that pop up regularly. Then, in 2009, they were looking for someone to manage the Halloween Fair and I volunteered with a team of my friends and it went from there.

TB: What are the core functions and objectives of the BHS PTA?

KB: The primary function of the PTA is fundraising. Through the many events we do, the PTA provides funds for the School to purchase things which the teachers believe will make the learning experience better. We are also in the "business" of fun-raising and providing opportunities for BHS families to spend time together and for the girls to have fun events to



School friends: Katie Berry '93, P'24, '26, '31 (left) with one of her fellow parent volunteers and "great friend", Lisa Spencer-Arscott P'24, '27 (right). Katie says friendships are one of the best part of the PTA.

build memories with their friends. This all contributes to the BHS community and the girls feeling part of something special.

TB: What are some of the initiatives you have been involved with?

KB: A lot of what I have tried to do with the PTA is provide a blueprint, of sorts, for each event so they function more smoothly and are easier for people to take on. With all these things, it is a work in progress and there is always room for improvement! I have also worked hard to support the school with their fundraising for the new Innovation Centre. The Gala two years ago was lots of fun to help with, and it is a fantastic way to help raise money for Financial Aid at the school.

TB: Which is your favourite PTA event or activity, and why?

KB: It has to be Bingo Night. It is such a fun family event and I love watching the excitement as the girls wait to see who has won the American Girl of the Year in the mini-affle! I adore working with Eddie Gladwin P'25 and Flora Goodall '96, P'27 and previously with my great friends Claire Burnard P'24, PTA Chair, and Lisa Spencer Arscott P'24, '27.

TB: If you could give three reasons to join the PTA what would they be?

KB: 1. Your girls - when you are involved your girls notice and it matters to them. They are so proud of you and know that your involvement means you care about them and their school.

2. Friends - your girls make friends through the events, hanging out before and afterwards. My involvement through the PTA has given me some of my most favourite people in my life.

3. Everyone benefits - you, your girls and the School. What more could anyone want? You're helping to make the happy memories of your daughters' childhoods and helping the School to thrive.

TB: Are there misconceptions about the PTA and can you dispel them?

KB: I know there are misconceptions, as I had them. I think people see it as something to be avoided! They see it as old fashioned, and are afraid of getting stuck doing things they don't want to do. My advice is to gather your friends and pick one event, or one way you can help, and just have fun doing it. There are so many different ways to get involved and make a difference.

TB: And what would you say to all the parents who are already involved?

KB: Thank you! It is so easy to not get involved, but when you do, you make new friends and the girls really love seeing you around school. If you have ever volunteered for popcorn recess you will know what I mean! A huge thank you to the Class Parents who do it year after year, I am so thankful to so many of them. There are some pretty special parents out there at BHS.



Aloha Summer Luau

May 25, 2019 at 6:00pm



*Under the stars, on the field
to raise funds for the
financial aid programme at BHS*



*An evening of drinks, dinner,
dancing and entertainment surprises!*

\$175

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BHS
THE BERMUDA HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Two sisters, two paths, much success

Kristin Heyliger '09 and Rebecca Heyliger '10 are two BHS alumna who illustrate how a BHS education nurtures and supports its students along a variety of paths, that ultimately lead to careers and lives that are fulfilling and meaningful.

Both sisters are accomplished athletes with Kristin representing Bermuda in gymnastics and Rebecca, more famously, participating at the 2016 Olympics in Rio in the 50 metre freestyle. While they have sports in common, their paths after athletics are quite different.

Today, Kristin, who holds a Bachelors in International Studies, is a farmer, running Wild Island Farm with her husband, "Farmer" Jon.

She says of her post-BHS education: "As opposed to taking the traditional route, I found myself more interested in developing how I think with a more holistic approach to living."

The farm, which is located in Southampton, employs organic principles and sells agricultural products including hen, quail and duck eggs, chickens, animal feed and more. They also operate a petting farm, give tours and run camps for school children.

Rebecca holds a Bachelors in International Relations and Global Business and a Masters in Public Diplomacy from the University of Southern California, where she was also the swim and dive team captain. Today she lives in Copenhagen, Denmark with her fiancé, Mads, and says she may one day return to Bermuda and get involved in politics.

Both sisters credit BHS with being supportive of their athletic development while Kristin says gaining the ability to choose her own path was a key takeaway from her time at the School. Rebecca, meanwhile, says she developed her confidence at BHS, in part through her friends who were, "very loud, energetic and outspoken, we were a confident group."

Torchbearer asked the Heyligers to share more on their career paths.



The Heyliger ladies: Kristin (left) and Rebecca (right) Heyliger with their mother, Margret '80. Both these BHS alumna have followed their passions and interests into interesting and rewarding life experiences.

Kristin Heyliger '09

Torchbearer: How did your interest in animals, nature and farming develop?

Kristin: I have always preferred spending my time actively outdoors in nature. In addition, my interest in sustainable living developed during my Peace & Conflict studies at BHS. At this point in time, I realised the importance of supporting community-based programmes for a brighter future.

TB: Tell us about the farm and how and when the concept developed.

Kristin: The farm is where we, my partner and I, developed our hobby into a platform where we are able to share our products, passion and knowledge with others. Our family farm started off as an after school hobby, as Farmer Jon began herding up the tribe you find on the farm today. We have partnered to create family and sustainable programmes for our island to enjoy. At Wild Island we are committed to the natural life, reducing our footprint and providing market goods and services for the benefit of our community.

TB: You run a number of programmes that go beyond "farming", why do you do that and why is that important?

Kristin: Our programmes include petting farm tours and events, farm camps, composting and beekeeping, as well as volunteer opportunities. Through our



Happy family: Kristin Heyliger '09 runs Wild Island Farm with her husband "Farmer Jon", where they produce agricultural products and host family friendly activities for both children and adults.

products and services, we share and promote the importance of regenerative agriculture.

The Farming & Gardening programme was created for kids who just love to be outside. Campers get to soak up the sun, splash in the water and explore the island as they spend a week at the petting farm, farming and gardening. We also offer birthday parties and give adults the opportunity to get their hands a little dirty too!

TB: What does a typical day on the farm consist of for you? Are there a lot of early mornings?

Kristin: All early mornings! While there are routine activities that require daily attention, each day varies according to the season. As a small business owner, homesteader and beekeeper there are many different things that require attention, however if you enjoy what you do, you never work a day in your life.

TB: What are some of the most valuable skills you need in running the farm?

Kristin: Organisation and business management skills are the basics required, as well as exercising patience and the ability to adapt quickly to nature's surprises.

TB: Tell us one thing you and Rebecca have in common and one thing you don't.

Kristin: My sister and I are close but very different individuals. We both travelled extensively when we were younger, representing Bermuda in our respective sports, Gymnastics and Swimming.

TB: What do you think of your sister's athletic achievements? And do you think she could handle living on a farm?

Kristin: Her competing at the 2016 RIO Olympics was a point of pride for the entire family. She loves to help out on the farm when she is on Island.

Rebecca Heyliger '10

Torchbearer: How do you feel your BHS education prepared you for your sporting and working careers?

Rebecca: An all-girls school is the perfect place to foster strong women with strong opinions. When I got to USC I was able to speak up in my classes without hesitation or self-doubt. I feel the same way about my workplace, I make my opinions known in a constructive way and feel heard. Of course, confidence is key in athletics, having PE teachers like Ms Young, Ms Downy and Ms Davis around definitely made me feel comfortable in any arena.

TB: Did swimming help you attend university?

Rebecca: Though I did not initially earn an athletic scholarship, swimming definitely helped me get to USC. It was one of the main reasons I was attracted to USC, as



On the big stage: Rebecca Heyliger '10 represented Bermuda at the 2016 Olympics in Rio, in the 50 metre freestyle. She was also the swim and dive team captain at the University of Southern California.

they have both a top level collegiate and professional team, both of which I swam on. In my final year of collegiate swimming I earned a swimming scholarship, which I was very proud of.

TB: Describe the time commitment and dedication required to compete at an Olympic level.

Rebecca: The training was definitely exhausting physically and routinely missing out on social events was a bit tough. There were, of course, times when I wish I could've been on an amazing trip, or relaxing in Bermuda. The year I spent after graduating trying to qualify for Rio was next level. Swimming was the only focus, I added in even more diverse training methods and spent a lot more time on proper recovery. That made the difference.

TB: How did you know you had a desire to make that level of commitment?

Rebecca: Initially I had no plans to swim after high school. I don't know when I decided I wanted to be an Olympian but I knew swimming in college was part of getting there. I was a bit of a late bloomer, as far as swimming is concerned, so did not really make it on to the big stage until later than most. At USC I was training with the best of the best, so the goal really didn't seem that distant. I've been an athlete since I was young, I used to have national swimming practice from 6-8am and then head straight to Clearwater for Tri-hedz for another couple hours. Commitment was never a big deal, it was natural and necessary to achieve what I wanted.

TB: When did your interest in international diplomacy develop and

what are your ambitions in this field?

Rebecca: I'd say I've always found international relations and politics quite interesting. Public diplomacy is not quite that, it is an interesting mix of IR, communication, diplomacy, negotiation and conflict management. The different classes I took during my Bachelor's Degree related to such topics peaked my interest. Though I have not yet quite put this degree in to practice I still hope to move in that direction and one day maybe return home to Bermuda and get into politics.

TB: Tell us one thing you have in common Kristin and one thing you don't.

Rebecca: I'd say we are both very ambitious. We know what we want and we will make it happen no matter how aspirational that goal may be. I'd say our difference may be in how we achieve those goals. Kristin is very independent and will get things done the way she wants in her time. Her success is 100% her own. I, on the other hand, am a bit more collaborative, I often seek out help and advice from those who have skills or knowledge that I am lacking.

TB: What do you think of the work your Kristin is doing with the farm?

Rebecca: I am so impressed (with) the farm. The kids love it, the animals are happy and her and Farmer Jon are having a good time. It's nice to see kids genuinely enjoying themselves and being interested in the great outdoors as opposed to being stuck behind a screen.

I visit the farm every time I come home and helped with her first Root Camp during Easter 2018.

Alumni Updates

1980s

Judy Gonsalves '82 was appointed as Vice-President of Chubb Group and Division President of Bermuda. Judy has been with Chubb (formerly Ace) since 1992 when she began as an assistant underwriter in the excess liability department.

Kimberley Donald Hughes '83 was able to fulfil a lifelong passion and started her own interior decorating business in 2014 called Designs For Living, and is pleased to report it is doing really well. Kim also spent a decade in London working at Marks & Spencer developing new food products for them based at their Head Office in Baker Street, so has been blessed to work in two areas of her passion since graduating!



Amanda (Blackburne) Temple '86 and **Sacha Blackburne '88** (above) are both photographers, and for the last 20 years have enjoyed making memories tangible for their clients. They have started a new venture together - Indigo Song – to continue to make lasting memories for visitors to our beautiful island. The sisters are perfect partners since both are passionate about the environment and ensuring that their designs be eco-friendly, sustainable, fair trade and non-toxic. indigosong.com

1990s

Dr Annabel Fountain '92 was awarded a prestigious fellowship from the Royal College of Physicians in Britain. Dr Fountain joins other physicians who have been deemed to be the “most innovative and exceptional physicians in the world.”

Emily (Black) Hopkins '96 is a Senior Interior Designer at Linberg and Simmons and in 2018 started L&S Design Ltd. with two partners. They share the same new office space with Linberg & Simmons architects (who designed the BHS Innovation Centre) and collaborate on jobs. She is doing this while balancing her two children with husband Adam, and a new puppy, Esme.

Heather McDonald '97 recently re-opened her store Atelerie in their former location on Reid Street and added a second floor to her luxury boutique.

Alexia (Koban) Lux '97 and her husband welcomed their third child, Jack (right), born November 5th 2018 who joins his sisters Adriana 2 and Arabella 4. They live in Palm Beach, Florida.

Nicola Bromby '99, Michelle Lightbourn '99, Karen (Jones) Pliantios '99, Janika Roberts '99 and Layla



Sara Graham '93 married Mario Baldi in Tuscany on September 23rd, 2018. Classmates Julie Butler and Anne-Marie Bodal were in attendance, but did not organise themselves for a photo as they were having too much fun! Sara and Mario currently live in Torino with their two cats Tigerlily and Dragon. After putting 18 months into designing every detail of her Tuscan wedding, Sara has recently launched a business that offers intimate event planning services, specifically eco-friendly celebrations that are set in stunning outdoor locations. If you need a dramatic background to set the tone for your next retreat or business-related gathering...or you're dreaming of having a sparkling starlit dinner for friends and family (yes, she'll coordinate small weddings)... contact Sara @ [theitalianedit](https://www.instagram.com/theitalianedit) on Instagram



Lightbourne '31, along with Scott Brown, bared the frigid ocean waters on March 3rd in the Great Bermuda Penguin Swim, in aid of Hope Academy for Girls School in Sierra Leone. Team Mermaid & Scott raised more than \$850 to assist in building a library, computer room and boundary wall to secure this self-funded school for underprivileged girls. Karen wrote in: "As five fortunate recipients of our female only education from BHS, we thought it only right to pass on the opportunity to others. Ever tending to the goal."

Karen Plianthos '99 (below) and her husband Nicolas added to their family on September 11, 2018 with the arrival of Ophelia Leau. Mom and Dad hope that she will live up to her namesake - The Helper of Water.



2000s

Nicola Feldman Paugh '00 and her husband Jim (below) welcomed their first son, James, last November. This was a big year for Nicola as she completed her five-year journey towards her Doctorate. Nicola received a PhD in Public Policy and Administration and wrote her thesis on the role of personal development within the field of Human Services.



Rebecca Faulkenberry '01 (above) was recently home performing her one-woman show for the Bermuda Festival. She also held student workshops, and BHS students were thrilled to have a chance to ask the Broadway star about her stage career and her fledgling movie career.

Kimberley Caines-Best '01 has been appointed to serve on the Bermuda Airport Authority's Board. Kim also serves on the BHS Board of Trustees and is the co-founder of the Women's Legal Network, and a member of the Bermuda Toastmasters Club.

Natasha Tucker '02 co-hosted a workshop at the Chamber of Commerce on January 21st to help businesses build their brands and stand out in a crowded marketplace. Natasha co-founded an e-commerce site that sells sustainably, ethically made high-fashion and lifestyle labels, Reve en Vert, and more recently opened up The House, a co-working members space in Hamilton. To learn more visit thehousebermuda.com

2010s

Madison Hughes '13 graduated from Exeter University in 2018 after earning an undergraduate degree in Politics & International Relations and a Masters in International Relations. She is now working in London at The Garden House School.



Isabel Thompson '14 (above) visited BHS to talk to students about her career as a commercial pilot. Isabel studied to become a pilot while she was taking her undergraduate degree. She hopes to fly a route to Bermuda one day.



Dr Hayley (Faries) Morton '00 has recently returned to the island to work as a GP at Island Health Services. After BHS she headed to New Mexico, USA, where she represented Bermuda at the Armand Hammer United World College. There, she obtained her International Baccalaureate Diploma. Next, she headed across the pond to the UK where she studied medicine at Newcastle University. She intercalated and obtained an additional Masters of Research degree with distinction. She graduated from medical school in 2008 and remained to complete her Foundation Training (residency) in the North-East of England. She specialised in General Practice and headed to West Yorkshire for this further postgraduate study. In 2012 she and her future husband ventured to Australia where she worked for a Homeless health service and, most recently, she worked as a fully qualified GP in Liverpool, England. Hayley is very excited to be back in Bermuda and for her daughter, Molly, to start EYP at BHS in September 2019.

Aqueelah Simmons '14 was named the recipient of the 2018 Trott & Duncan Educational Scholarship Award. Aqueelah is studying for her Masters of Law at Nottingham Trent University.

Phoebe Hughes '15 (below) graduated from University Arts London in 2018 with a First and is now working in London at The Bridge school (a school for children with special needs), with a plan to pursue a Masters in Art Therapy.



Ojeda Smith '15 and **Aqueelah Simmons '14** were named the 2018 Wakefield Quinn scholarship recipients. Both attended Nottingham Trent University in the UK. Ojeda graduated in July 2018 with a Bachelor of Arts in criminology, and Aqueelah graduated in 2017 with her LLB (Hons) and is now pursuing a Legal Practice Course.

Natalie Peckett '17 and **Rachel Daly '14** were named the 2018 Nicholl Scholarship winners. Both are studying medicine; Natalie at the University of Edinburgh and Rachel at the University of Birmingham.

We always love to receive updates from our alumni and we know your classmates do too!
You can send info and photos to jbutler@bhs.bm

In Memoriam

BHS wishes to express its sincere condolences to all family and friends of the deceased.

Daphne Boyle Woods Kress '49

Diane McGee McBeath '49

Daphne S. Stobo '52

Sally Counsell Meredith '72

Barbara Zierold

We sincerely apologise for anyone omitted from the In Memoriam Section. Please notify the Advancement Office of any omission.



Your connection to BHS doesn't end when you graduate. You are forever part of a network of accomplished alumni around the world.

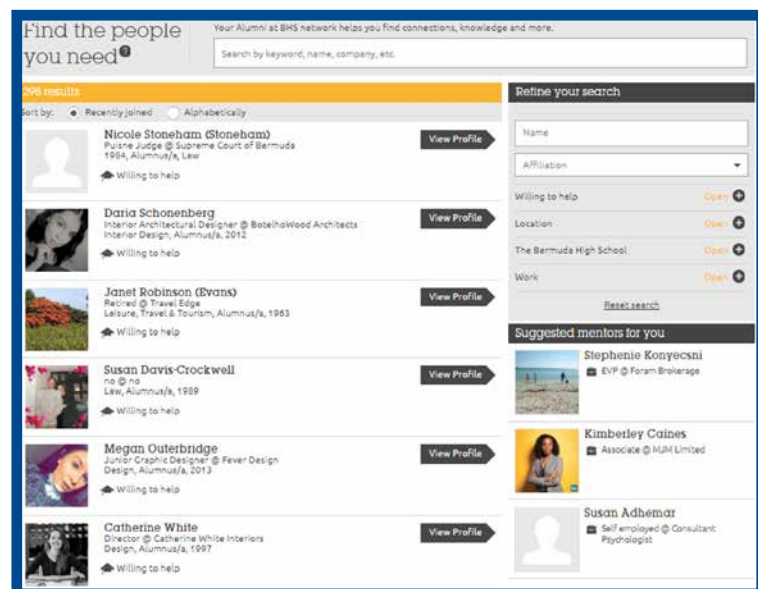
Introducing

www.alumniatbhs.com

An easy way for you to reach out and stay connected.

"What a great idea! Giving back and supporting young people is so important!" *McKeisha Smith '93, Senior Vice President, Butterfield Bank*

Every BHS alumna/us has access to this safe and secure online networking platform, dedicated to helping you build your personal and professional networks. You will be able to catch up with old classmates, find and post jobs and internships, and even mentoring opportunities.



Easy to use directory

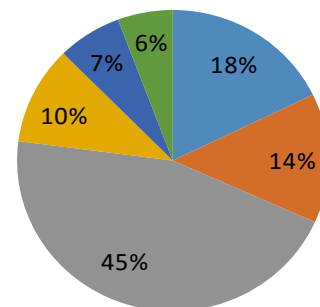
To register, go to www.alumniatbhs.com and sign up using LinkedIn, Facebook or your email.

BHS Financial Report

Financial Information 2017-2018

Sources of Giving

Foundations/Trusts/Associations	\$427,800
Friends of BHS	\$167,960
Companies	\$131,200
Parents	\$99,400
BHS PTA	\$63,000
Alumni	\$54,030



■ Friends of BHS
 ■ Companies
 ■ Foundations/Trusts/Associations
 ■ Parents
 ■ BHS PTA
 ■ Alumni

\$943,390

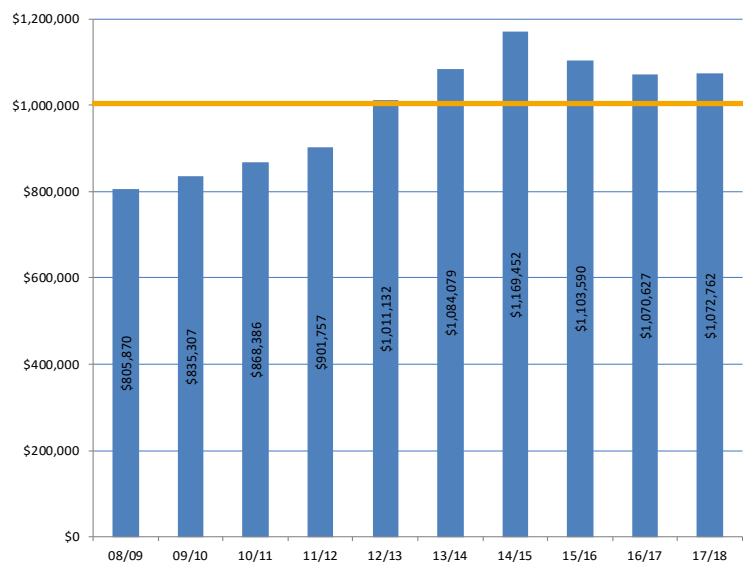
In total ANNUAL DONATIONS for 2017 - 2018

174 Awards received for TUITION ASSISTANCE in 2017- 2018

Scholarships & Bursaries

Year	Amount	No. of Awards
2012-2013	\$1,011,132	196
2013-2014	\$1,084,079	210
2014-2015	\$1,169,452	206
2015-2016	\$1,103,590	190
2016-2017	\$1,070,627	200
2017-2018	\$1,072,762	174

Scholarships & Bursaries



Balance Sheet

	June 30 2018	June 30 2017
Assets		
Cash	\$ 1,739,388	2,439,664
Fees & donations receivable	932,156	803,413
Other assets	177,059	158,818
Investments	5,530,183	5,421,120
Capital assets	10,841,352	10,710,862
Total assets	\$ 19,220,138	19,533,877

Liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 1,987,169	1,901,132
Prepaid fees and student deposits	811,797	805,400
Total liabilities	\$ 2,798,966	2,706,532

Fund Balances

General Fund - operations & capital assets	\$ 10,010,768	10,882,381
Restricted Fund	640,971	429,925
Endowment Fund	5,769,433	5,515,039
Total fund balances	\$ 16,421,172	16,827,345
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 19,220,138	19,533,877

Income Statement

Revenues

Tuition & fees	\$ 13,724,946	14,276,935
Donations	943,390	879,933
Other income	934,809	1,247,047
Total revenues	\$ 15,603,145	16,403,915

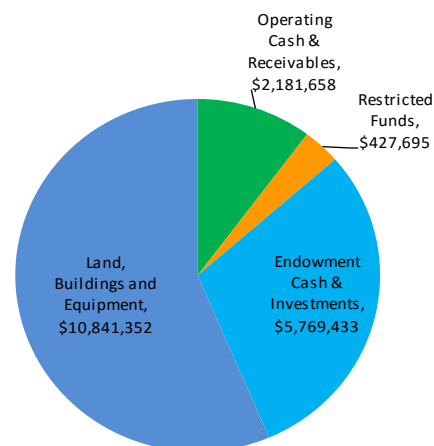
Expenses

Salaries & benefits	\$ 12,200,888	11,468,642
Plant, maintenance & depreciation	1,719,449	1,838,564
School resources & administration	1,349,063	1,186,127
Scholarships & bursaries	1,072,762	1,070,627
Total expenses	\$ 16,342,162	15,563,960

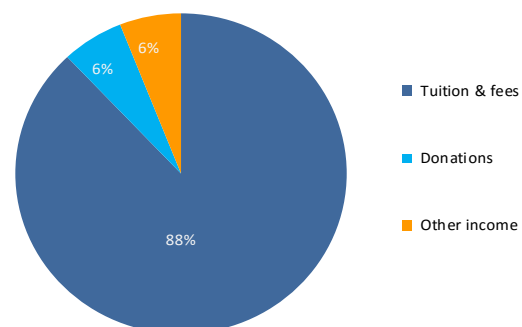
Net income

General Fund - operations & capital assets	(1,156,946)	230,704
Restricted Fund	(61,465)	(202,045)
Endowment Fund	479,394	811,296
Net (decrease) / increase in fund balance	\$ (739,017)	839,955

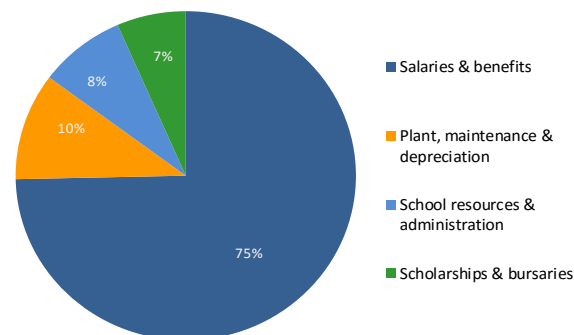
Assets



Sources of Funds



Uses of Funds



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