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## CHANGE COMES TO BEVERLY BOYS

BY LEWIS WOODHEAD

**B**everly Boys, or Coombe Boys as they will be known from January, is about to undergo many changes. These

include:

**Design and Technology/ Art Rooms:** The new rooms will be bigger, newer and updated...therefore giving us better opportunities in subjects such as Art and DT. The new classrooms will be much lighter and give students a much more pleasant learning environment, with good facilities to display people's artwork.

**Canteen:** The new canteen will be bigger; currently lunch times are fairly

chaotic with huge queues, so the new canteen will make lunch times much more relaxed!

**Bike sheds:** The previous bike sheds were rusty and unsafe, with very little security for student's bikes. The new sheds will be much more secure, giving green minded cycling students greater piece of mind about the safety of their bikes and allowing them to concentrate on their lessons!

**The Name:** As a student at Beverly, soon to be Coombe Boys, the name change doesn't really seem too much of a big deal. Apart from the change in head teachers, the transition from

END

## COOMBE GIRLS SCHOOL UNVEILS NEW SPORTS HALL AND ARTS CENTRE

BY NATASHA PATEL

Have you ever gone to school thinking that you are incredibly lucky? I doubt many have, but we really should start to look around at everything we are blessed with at our schools. Living in a democratic country with laws saying we have to attend school should feel like a luxury not a chore. Tuesday 20th September was the day it truly hit me that I have a large amount to be thankful for.

This was the day when Coombe Girls' School held a very auspicious ceremony within their newly built Sports hall and Performing Arts Centre. It was a day to celebrate the opening of the new facility as well as the school's 50th birthday. Many guests were invited including the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames Yogan Yoganathan, and HRH Princess Alexandra officially opened the new facilities. Also to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the school, many people who once attended Coombe Girls' were invited for a reunion. I was fortunate enough to be involved

with the ceremony. Part of the event involved groups of pupils, all representing different aspects of the school, forming one great parade full of colour and spirit to greet the guests inside the sports hall. Being a year eleven prefect I was representing the prefects. We made our way to the front where we greeted the Princess. It truly was a great experience to walk in with the orchestra playing to there full capacity, the many flags waving high and to see the happy faces of all the guests.

After the ceremony had ended it was time for the prefects to give tours to any ex-pupils. Another prefect and I were tour guides to someone who attended Coombe Girls' School in 1973. As you can probably imagine a lot would have changed since she attended Coombe. As we went round the school I had a feel of what it was like when the school was first open. She described their uniform which included a green beret. We walked through, looking at the school in a completely different way. She went on to

tell us how much the school had changed and how much more we have now. Retrospectively, the day helped me realise that school today is such a luxury.

Coombe now has a state of the art sports hall, along with brand new trampolines and mats, two drama rooms connected with videoing and sound recording facilities and also a magnificent music recital room with apple computers each connected with their own keyboards. This is a great step up to what I had experienced starting back in year 7.

I, and many others, have never experienced so much school spirit at one time. What else could you **END** from your school when its sole aim is to prepare you for the world of opportunity?

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If you want to include some news about your school or an interesting story, call Vicky Metcalf on 07795 813052