



Beths Blog

Week ending Friday 8 February 2019

Flying the Flag

After having a brand new flag pole fitted before Christmas, we finally now have our brand new Beths flag flying!



Jumpers for Jimmy



We recently received a letter from Margaret Mizen, thanking us for our 'Jumper for Jimmy' fundraiser. We managed to raise a fantastic £1,049.43!

'By raising such a wonderful amount of money For Jimmy you are empowering our dear young people, schools and communities to create the safest spaces for young people to grow up in.'

Well done and thank you to all of you who donated!

新年快乐

On Monday Beths hosted its second community afternoon tea, which was Chinese New Year-themed. It was absolutely fantastic to see some of the same faces back again from the last one – regulars, we are hoping! Guests enjoyed an Asian-inspired soup and spring roll, sandwiches and cakes with tea and coffee and got to see a traditional lion dance, some Kung Fu and even took part in Tai Chi!



Beths students presented to them in Mandarin and sang them a New Year's song in the language too. Guests praised them on the quality of their Mandarin skills and the confidence with which they spoke. Well done boys, you really are a credit to us!

Thank you as well to the Kung Fu masters, who led the dancing, our Chinese teachers for all their preparation and to the site team and kitchen staff. All of the staff and students who were there had a great time and hope you did too!



Some of our guests sent us their reviews of the afternoon:



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'We would all like to thank everyone involved in making the afternoon so enjoyable. Please give our thanks to everyone who make the afternoon so entertaining. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves.'

'Just to say a big thank you for the lively Chinese themed afternoon tea today. It was well organised and the staff and students could not do enough for the guests. The food was a delight and very welcome. Finally, the Chinese entertainment was first class. Well done Beths, you are a credit to the community.'

'We would like to thank you for such a wonderful afternoon spent on Monday 4th February celebrating Chinese New Year. We were overwhelmed by the politeness and friendliness of both children and staff. The tea was delicious and so appropriate for the occasion, and the entertainment was second to none. The children in particular impressed us with their amazing talent.'

'Neither of us could believe that this special event was arranged so professionally, and yet such a small price to pay for what was an afternoon to remember.'

'Many, many thanks to you all at Beths Grammar School, we look forward to seeing you again at future events.'

On Tuesday, the kitchen put on a Chinese feast for the students and staff which was delicious.

On Wednesday Year 8 and Year 9 students made dumplings celebrating Chinese New Year. Photos to follow shortly!

German Cultural Event

Monday also saw the celebration of German Culture. Students learnt about Zuckertüte – bags of sweets and presents given to children on the first day of school to 'make it taste sweeter'. They made their own and tasted some German sweets, as well as traditional bread, ham and cheese.



Wafer and Icing Building

Thursday lunch last week, Year 9 battled it out amongst the French classes to see who could make the best Parisian monument out of WAFERS AND ICING! They really threw themselves into it and the pressure mounted as the timer went down. All were great efforts, even the one which, unfortunately, toppled at the last minute! It was a lot of fun even just watching them, and quite a lot of the raw materials were eaten up at the end! It was hungry work, clearly!

Thank you to all those who took part. Well done to our winners:

Harry and Robbie with their Sacré Coeur and to Matthew and Daniel with their Eiffel Towers.



Inspired Through Sport



Last year our PE Department and students were involved in Inspired Through Sport. We managed to raise over £2,000 and local 200m Great British athlete, Tommy Ramdhan, came into school.

Our students competed in sponsored fitness circuits and had lots of fun. Prizes were also given to students who raised the most money with a tennis racquet to Charlie H and an Xbox 360 won by Oliver S!

In turn, Beths have now received a whole host of sports equipment to benefit health, well-being and sport.



Next up are our Year 7 and Year 8 students will need to be prepared for 14th March, when we hope to host another GB athlete. Students will be raising money for their sponsored fitness circuits.

Year 10 House Football

Another great week for Sport! And the results are in...

Qualifying Stages

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Abbey (1) v (2) Brampton | Monday | Eardley (1) v (1) Hurst |
| Abbey (3) v (0) Cray | Tuesday | Hurst (1) v (0) Wickham |
| Brampton (1) v (0) Cray | Wednesday | Eardley (2) v (1) Wickham |

Following the play-off finals, the teams finished as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| In 6 th place | Abbey |
| In joint 4 th place | Cray and Wickham |
| In 3 rd place | Hurst |
| In 2 nd place | Eardley |
| Final winners | BRAMPTON |

Did your team win?

Time to Talk Event

Time to Talk Day 2019 took place on Thursday 7 February in ICT3. Mr Ward and Ms Brett-Smith, together with the Mental Health Ambassadors hosted an informal gathering, where staff and students were able to talk about mental health.



October Open Events for Year

Following a recent survey of our current Year 7 parents regarding whether they would have preferred an open event on a Saturday, rather than on a Thursday evening, an overwhelming response came back with 'yes' to the Saturday.

With this in mind, we will be holding an open day on Saturday 12 October with the intention that the school will be closed to all staff and students on Monday 14 October.

Further details will follow in the next few weeks.

House Hero

We are looking to celebrate a member of each house with a 'House Hero' award. This will be displayed on the House notice boards in school and will be an ongoing feature, refreshed every half term with a new 'Hero'. The nominations will be centred around our Beths core values of Excellence, Community, Respect and Nurture.



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Staff will be nominating students who they feel fit the criteria and the first House Hero's will be presented after the February Half Term.

Book Amnesty Month

February will be a 'Book Amnesty' month, in that all overdue library books returned during February will have the fine waived. Students have been asked (by form tutors) to please check lockers, school bags, at home on bookshelves and in bedrooms to see if they have any school library books (all books are stamped inside). We would really appreciate parents and carers help in finding and returning books. All books in the library have been scanned and so during March all current lenders of 'late' books still outstanding will be contacted. Fines will then be payable and if books still not returned, they will need to be replaced. Thank you.

Additionally, if you have books in good condition at home that are no longer wanted (and are age appropriate for our students) then we really welcome such additions to the library. Please bring any donations in to school reception, or ask your son or daughter to bring them to the staff in the LRC.

Come and join the Parents Association

We've had a busy start and already we have a couple of dates to keep free in your diary.

We have dates for the next Beths PA Quiz Night is 30th March 2019. This is always such a fun night. Teams of eight, Adults and older children (11+) all welcome. It is £5.00 per ticket for adults and £2.50 for the older children. Keep an eye out for the flyer that will be e-mailed to you by the school.

Another date to keep free in your diaries is Saturday 8th June 2019 as we are lucky enough to be able to invite Out of Bounds Comedy in to run a Comedy Night. This is a hugely popular event a Beths and has proved extremely popular in the past. An evening of stand-up comedy with talented comedians, socialising with other Beths parents with a licensed bar – fundraising for your school doesn't get better than this! Come along for a chat, a laugh; bring yourselves and bring some friends...The bigger the crowd the bigger the laughs!

Sport

FIXTURES

| FOOTBALL | | | |
|---------------------------|------------|------------------|------|
| N Kent (Quarter Final) | 13.02.2019 | U14 v Bexley | Home |
| | 13.02.2019 | U12 v King Henry | Away |

RESULTS

| FOOTBALL | | | | |
|------------------------|------------|-----------------------------------|------|----------|
| Kent Semi Final | 01.02.2019 | U14 v St Pauls | Home | Lost 1-2 |
| Kent | 06.02.2019 | 1 st XI v Oakwood Park | Away | Lost 2-3 |

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|------|------------|
| N Kent | 04.02.2019 | U12 v King Henry | Away | Postponed |
| ESFA | 04.02.2019 | U14B v Hurstmere | Home | Lost 2-5 |
| RUGBY | | | | |
| Friendly | 06.02.2019 | 1 st XV v Ravens Wood | Home | |
| | 02.02.2019 | U12A v Gravesend | Away | Cancelled |
| | 02.02.2019 | U13 v Gravesend | Away | Cancelled |
| BASKETBALL | | | | |
| National | 05.02.2019 | U16 v NTC | Away | Lost 59-66 |
| Kent Quarter Final | 07.02.2019 | U19 v King Henry | Home | Lost 72-30 |
| London Youth Games | 07.02.2019 | U14 v Palmer Catholic Academy | Away | Lost 49-47 |

Coming up

Over the Line Workshop

On Thursday 14th February, all our Year 13 Students will have a one-hour 'Over the Line' workshop on from Elevate Education.

Year 11 Trial Exams finish

The Year 11 trial exams began on Thursday 7th and will continue until Friday 15th February. Good luck to all the student sitting the exams – we hope you are prepped and ready to go!

Chess Tournament

A new chess tournament is about to begin shortly! This will be taking place in the MCC on Friday lunchtimes, alongside the Beths Chess Club. If students would like to register, please see Mr Hegarty before the Half Term break to participate in the tournament. There will be chances to win prizes and the top 10 players will be able to go to the Dalancey Chess Tournament!

Good luck!



Half Term

The last day of term is Friday 15th February. What will you be up to on your week off school?

St Patricks Day Community Event for Retired/Semi-Retired

Our MFL Department will be hosting another community event and this time the theme is St Patrick's Day. It will be held on the Monday 18 March 2019 between 14:00pm – 15.15pm.



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More information to follow...

Students on Site – one arriving at 6.40am on Monday!

A reminder that there are still an increasing number of students arriving particularly early in the morning and staying late into the evening. The school actually opens for students at 8.00am in the morning and we would encourage all students (unless they are remaining for pre-arranged activities) to have left the site by 5.00pm.

As the title suggests, one student arrived at 6.40am in the morning earlier this week – just ten minutes after the first member of the site team – as we hope you understand, this is really not acceptable.

The school is unable to ensure there is a qualified first aider on site before 8.00am in the morning and after 4.30pm in the evening. This request is being made as we are unable to supervise students outside of these times and we can therefore take no responsibility for them, should they be involved in any form of accident.

Safety and Courtesy

On a more serious note, we would like to remind parents, students and staff to continue to be respectful of our neighbours and not park across their driveways. The safety of our students continues to be our utmost priority and so we also ask that, if you are dropping off or collecting your son or daughter, you abide by the road markings and refrain from parking on zig-zags or double yellow lines.

We have also received a couple of calls from members of the public about parents dropping students in the morning actually on the roundabout at the top of Bourne Road – close to Dartfordians. This is obviously extremely dangerous not just for other road users, but also for the students themselves. We would urge that parents please find a safe place to drop-off their child/children for school.