



## Beths Blog

### Week ending Friday 8 December 2017

#### Mandarin Celebration Event – Tuesday 5 December

The MEP event was successful. Our school MEP student Jack Ead has been chosen to do an individual opening speech in Mandarin. He represented the first 14 schools across the whole country. The Secretary of State for Education, Justine Greening; The Minister for School Standards, Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP and the Minister of Education for China, CHEN Baosheng attended the event. Beths student Jack's speech impressed the Ministers a lot. Both Ministers of Education from China and the UK placed a high value on student's excellent spoken Chinese Mandarin. Miss McLeod and I feel extremely proud of every student.



By Ms Li

#### Christmas Concert – Tuesday 5 December

The Christmas Concert took place on the 5 December with over 50 students participating. A wide variety of music was performed to a fantastic standard with boundaries being pushed in all directions.

A percussion ensemble performed some rhythmic trickery which delighted the audience and proved that even with only broom handles and drum sticks, great music can be made. The sixth form choir made their performance debut and we look forward to hearing great things in the future. The final performance included both the junior and sixth form choir on the stage singing Angels Carol while the orchestra provided the music.

The whole evening was kindly supported by the PA who provided refreshments that included mince pies and mulled wine.



The music department look forward to a busy spring term, the official announcement of a possible trip abroad for students and even more students participating in the Easter concert. Well done to all who played.

## The Young Historians Project – Wednesday 6 December

The Young Historians Project from Chichester University visited Beths to start their work on Black History. The Young Historians delivered an assembly to Key Stage 3 in the morning and placed an exhibition in the school for students to enjoy over break and lunchtime.



## Christmas Lunch

On Wednesday 6 December, our caterers, Independent Catering, served up the Christmas Lunch for staff and students. With the entire meal (including pudding – either Christmas Pudding or Festive Chocolate Gateau - and a cracker) costing a very reasonable £2.30 for students, the lunch was very well received.



For those preferring not to partake of the Christmas Lunch in the dining hall, other, Christmas-themed offerings were available in both the Pod and the Snack Shack.

Students were offered items such as a 'Big Pig', which was a large sausage, wrapped in bacon in a bun or Spiced Pulled Beef served in a floured bap.

Christmas themed vegetarian options were also offered at each of the food outlets including Roasted Butternut Squash Wellington.



## Bah Humbug!

On Wednesday 6 December 30 Year 10 and 11 GCSE Drama students attended their second Old Vic Workshop and Theatre trip. This time it was to see A Christmas Carol, starring Rhys Ifans as Scrooge. The workshop gave the students the opportunity to develop their understanding of working as an ensemble and learning to speak in unison. Although a little shaky at first



students began to realise how effective it could be and helped them understand how the opening of the play was to be performed. Students learnt about various stage layouts and how it can impact upon an audience, finishing with creating their own set locations on the floor with tape.

The show itself was truly magical. Due to such positive feedback from the last workshop the students were given seats closer to the stage giving them perfect views of the unique staging and allowing them to feel much closer to the action.

Due to the workshop, students could recognise sections of the script they had worked on and were drawn into the ghostly world of Scrooge and his visitors. There were free warm mince pies before the show, bell ringing, carol singing and the Christmas dinner sent from the top of the theatre down to the stage. Students even got to see the theatre turn into a beautiful snow storm. From speaking to the students many left the theatre in awe of the acting, singing, costume, music and staging. Some even left having a completely new perspective on Scrooge. Everyone involved had a truly memorable night, getting them in the spirit for Christmas.

By Miss Grady

