



# Beths Grammar School

Excellence - Community - Respect - Nurture

## Week Ending Thursday 7 May 2020

### **Coronavirus (COVID-19) – updates from the Headteacher**

Ah silence! I am writing this at about eleven in the morning and all is quiet. The teenagers in the house are yet to stir, the living room is tidy, the attitude is invisible and my culinary skills are primed. It is truly a humbling experience on each Thursday evening to be out at 8pm applauding our brave doctors, nurses, care workers and all those NHS workers who are continuing to care and look after our sick. I and everybody else in the neighbourhoods cannot thank you enough. As I write this I am still awaiting the guidance from on high as to how we begin to mobilise ourselves back into some sort of routine and, hopefully, when I write in next week's Blog, we will have a much clearer idea of this.

I do hope that you are all healthy and staying safe. Social distancing measures mean that people are aware of being two metres apart but I think this definition may well change over the coming weeks and I would ask that if, and when you are allowed back in school, that every precaution is taken when making your journey from home to Beths.

More staff are using TEAMS, ZOOM or YOUTUBE during their lessons, but please understand that not all the staff feel comfortable in using these platforms and I would ask that students and parents do not put pressure on them to do so. As said above, we are actively encouraging staff to use a variety of ways of delivering information.

If we do return to school this side of the summer holidays it is our intention that the focus will be on teaching for the entire time that we would be in school for. Any calendared events that would normally take place will now not happen – they will either be cancelled or postponed to a later date.

### **Thought For The Week**

This week is Road Safety. The traffic on the roads is currently at 1970s capacity which is about 35% of what you would normally expect. One thing that students need to be aware is that metal is tougher than flesh. I do worry about the way they cross the road without even looking. Something to look-up on YouTube would be adverts about road safety – the Green Cross Man (David Prowse aka Darth Vader), the famous people of the time showing how to cross a road – Kevin Keegan (famous footballer) or Jon Pertwee (then Dr Who) or if you really want to go back in time – The Tufty Club. They are worth researching to see how road safety was taught to children back in the past. The message hasn't changed much but you will be entertained in terms of fashions of the day!

The PHSCE theme focusses upon skills in the workplace. What skills do you need for any job? It has been quoted that the average number of different paid employments since leaving school a person under the age of forty has had is ten. How many jobs do you think you might do?

The idea of the 9-5 job is quickly evaporating. How many jobs can you think of that are still 9-5, Monday-Friday? What do you consider to be the typical workplace? How is the current situation going to change things? Temporarily or permanently? Consider the type of job you would want to do, how would your week look? How would your working environment look? Who would you need to be in contact with?



## Key Workers

As we continue to mention, we know that many of our students' parents and carers are going above and beyond in their jobs as key workers and we would love to be able to create a collage of images of you all, as a massive thank you and to introduce everyone to the extended #BethsFamily.



If you are working in a supermarket, for the NHS or as a carer, a delivery driver, a postman, working in the supply industry etc, please send us a photo of you, in your uniform and we hope to create something wonderful.

Please keep sending your photos in to the [headsoffice@beths.bexley.sch.uk](mailto:headsoffice@beths.bexley.sch.uk) email address – we would love to be able to celebrate everything you are doing.

## Home School Working

Likewise, we would love to share with everyone their home school work set up. Have you been studying in the garden as the weather has been pretty good, are you at your desk, are your pets helping you study? Send us a photo of you working so we can create a collage of everyone's different working methods that are helping them through this unusual time. Please keep sending these images in to [headsoffice@beths.bexley.sch.uk](mailto:headsoffice@beths.bexley.sch.uk) so we can share these images too.

## Staff Working from Home

Like many of us, Mrs George, our SLT Admin Support, is trying to work from home with small children also wanting to get involved. This is little Poppy helping to update the website! She's obviously already decided on her career path!



## Library Books

Whilst you are all studying from home, please take the time to have a good look around your bedrooms, book shelves, school bags, cupboards, under beds etc for any school books and, in particular, Library books. We have a number of books missing from our school library and these will all have the school stamp inside the cover. If you find any, please return to school, when you are able and any fines will be waived. We'd just like the books back. You may find one that you'd forgotten even borrowing!





## **Senior Student Leadership Team Challenge**

A reminder that the Student Leadership Team have organised a running league so students (and staff) can stay fit during these unprecedented times and all proceeds will go to NHS charities. This is the Beths way of saying a big thank you to those keeping us safe.

As of Wednesday we have raised £682 with a final target to raise £1000 and we would love to have your support on our fundraising journey!

If you would like to help us reach our goal, please follow the link below in order to donate on our JustGiving page.

<https://bit.ly/BethsRun>

Stay safe and thank you in advance,

Sam, Maddie and the Student Leadership Team

## **Mr Blyghton's 'Dice Magic' – a humorous look at what the Premier League could have looked like**

When Mr Blyghton isn't working, he spends his time dreaming about football on a beach in the South Pacific with a cold beer and what could have been ... Below he shares with you his thoughts.

### **The Results from Week 36**

West Ham	1	0	Watford
Burnley	1	5	Wolves
Chelsea	1	1	Norwich
Everton	0	4	Aston Villa
Southampton	1	2	Brighton
Man City	3	4	Bournemouth
Crystal Palace	1	4	Man Utd
Arsenal	4	2	Liverpool
Newcastle	1	2	Tottenham
Leicester	0	1	Sheffield Utd

### **Football Round-up**

Given that most of the fixtures produced an away win, travel hasn't been an obvious issue although the game at Newcastle was delayed by a number of hours because the Tottenham team coach was late in arriving because of the engine only working at 80% capacity.





The Friday Night Spectacular did not live up to its name – more of Sunday Evening cup of Horlicks. West Ham returned to the London Stadium in London to pose a question to Watford – can you break down the door? Given that the Hammers have well and truly nailed things down, Watford couldn't really get a handle on proceedings. Jack Wilshere from Hertfordshire was hitchin a ryde on Mark Noble in that he followed an effort in on goal. Declan Rice threw a bit of a paddy on the field and reaped his reward of a booking late on in the game.

For a day in the life of Burnley forward Aaron Lennon it has meant having to train hard so his fitness has been getting better all the time. He could have used medication to work it out in order to feel fine. However, Manager Sean Dyche told him to let it be. It wasn't Burnley's day as Wolves devoured their opposition in this competitive meeting. Goals from new signings Julio Hyena, Horace Dingo punctuated a dogged performance with two goals each. Diogo Jota completed the rout.

Norwich arrived at Stamford Bridge having lost all of the last five games. Needless to say, a benevolent Chelsea defence gifted Norwich an early goal with defender Timm Klose, at the near post, burying a header into the bottom corner of the net. Manager Lampard put this down to social distancing. Chelsea then proceeded to batter the Norwich goal and in putting all their eggs in one basket, Pedro put a sunny-side up smile on everyone's face with a late equaliser.

Aston Villa fresh from their demolition of the Palace, softened the Toffees by rolling them over. A set-piece from Jack Grealish who was a sporting a new haircut, a short-back and no sides opened the scoring. Danny Drinkwater, who doesn't, overcame an injury, a hangover from the previous game, to start a premier league game for first time. His input allowed Villa to control the play. An own goal by Michael Keane, who wasn't, gave the Villans a 2-0 lead at the break. The second half saw Everton encircle the Claret & Blue goal but the defence stood firm. Then two breakaway goals from Luiz and Makamba secured the points for the Villa.

The South Coast Derby brought Brighton and Southampton together on a sunny afternoon. Southampton were no saints as their entire defence were yellow-carded for a series of cynical tackles. The Seagulls who weren't to be denied their chips fought for control of the pitch. Their wingers were busy bombing up and down and peppered the penalty area of the home team. Midfielder Jack Sponge whipped up a delight of a pass to put Glen Murray in on goal. Needless to say he got his just desserts. Southampton replied almost immediately..... with Nathan Redmond whose colourful display always brightens up the game. It wasn't until injury time that Brighton dealt the final blow and stole the three points with a strike from Jordan Thud , who is a real hit with the travelling fans.

An epic seven goal thriller saw a colourful performance individually from Silva (D), Silva (B) and de Bruyne but together, they merged into the background. Goals from Sterling, Rodri and Aguero put City three goals to the good. However, with the wind behind them and a not-so angelic tackle by Gabriel Jesus saw Bournemouth storm back into the game. Goals from Cook, King, Billing and Gosling saw the Cherries benefit from the fruits of their labour as they secured the victory at the Etihad.





Palace welcomed United to Selhurst Park. However, after a well-executed play by Martial who demonstrated his art precisely freed up Rashford to put the Red Devils 1-0 up within 5 minutes, they were not so welcome. A second from Mata, a third from Fred allowed them to go in 3-0 at half-time. Wifried Zaha was only fouled 34 times before being substituted. His replacement Christian Benteke, unsurprisingly, scored a solo goal to pull one back for the Palace following a goalkeeping error from de Gea. This inspired the visitors to go one better with James Daniel turning sharply in the penalty area and sliding the ball under the advancing Guita.

Arsenal turned up at the Emirates. Chelsea-bound forward Aubameyang stepped up with a hat-trick, settling the nerves of the home side and of his would-be suitors. Liverpool, concerned by the fact that their trophy might never be paraded around Merseyside, were a shadow of their former selves. A pundit remarked that it wasn't Alisson in goal, more Malcolm Allison with fedora and large cigar. After the break, Liverpool were gifted a penalty courtesy of David Luiz but Mo Salah, leading scorer, was unable to curry any favour with skipper Jordan Henderson who took the kick and blazed it over the bar. Arsenal made it four on the hour with the other one with the big curly hair scoring. Liverpool hit back in the last five minutes with two from Mane and Lion.

When the Spurs coach finally arrived in Tyneside, Manager Jose Mourinho announced that he had no forwards that he could pick so opted for a defensive 7-2-1. This matched Newcastle's 8-1-1 formation that has served them so well during the season. The ball occasionally swapped between each half of the pitch but it could be said that each team maintained excellent possession in the final third – it was unfortunate that it was each other's final third. Newcastle made a bold decision to substitute their goalkeeper for another defender. This encouraged Spurs to launch the ball from their penalty area resulting in some indecision in the Geordies defence. Whilst the back four were trying to understand each other, Oliver Skipp ran through to score giving Tottenham a first half lead. Newcastle were stung into action when Danny Rose, no shrinking violet, capped a colourful performance shot the ball at Lloris who dropped the ball into his net – no surprise there. However, Tottenham are made of sterner stuff these days, so it was that Danny Dier used his head and secured the three points. After the game the coach driver realised that they had been driving with the handbrake on.

Final game of the weekend, saw a VAR decision spoil the game. Leicester City riding high in the table expected to dispose of the Blades whose cutting edge had been blunted by skilful defending. However Leicester were within a close shave of sharing the points after Sheffield had gone one-up. Jamie Vardy thought that he had scored – on the screen it looked as though he had scored – the Leicester fans were cheering because they thought they had seen their team score but oh no – VAR Decision – No Goal. It was obviously just a dream then.





**As it stands under Mr Blyghton's 'Dice Magic' after week 36:**

Position	Club	Played	Won	Draw	Loss	GD	Points
1	Liverpool	36	28	3	5	39	87
2	Man City	36	20	4	12	35	64
3	Leicester	36	17	8	11	26	59
4	Man Utd	36	16	11	9	20	59
5	Chelsea	36	16	9	11	12	57
6	Wolves	36	13	15	8	10	54
7	Sheffield Utd	36	14	12	10	-1	54
8	Tottenham	36	14	10	12	9	52
9	Arsenal	36	12	15	9	1	51
10	Burnley	36	15	6	15	-6	51
11	Newcastle	36	13	9	14	-5	48
12	Everton	36	13	9	14	-9	48
13	Crystal Palace	36	12	10	14	-7	46
14	Southampton	36	14	4	18	-14	46
15	Brighton	36	10	13	13	-4	43
16	Aston Villa	36	11	6	19	-20	39
17	Bournemouth	36	10	8	18	-16	38
18	Watford	36	9	10	17	-14	37
19	West Ham	36	9	9	18	-17	36
20	Norwich	36	5	7	24	-41	22

Fixture 37 results coming up next week