



## Week Ending Friday 11 September

### **Message from the Headteacher**

Following on from my letter to parents of 9 September, I thought it might be useful to give you a few more details. As you know, as soon as we were notified that an individual within the school community had tested positive with Covid-19 we worked alongside the official bodies – LCRC (London Coronavirus Response Cell), Public Health Bexley and Bexley Local Authority – who in the case of LCRC and Public Health Bexley, are medical experts in this field. The NHS Test and Trace team were provided with all contacts the individual had been in close contact with 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms (the infectious period), all of which were outside of school. Upon our request the LCRC reviewed the Test and Trace database and confirmed that there was no additional risk to the school, however, they did emphasise that everyone needs to be aware that Coronavirus is present in London and throughout the country. The individual contracted the virus at a sporting event not associated with the school.

As it was deemed by the LCRC that there was no risk to the school, no members of the school community were required to be sent home and a deep clean of the school was not necessary, however, a thorough clean of all the rooms was undertaken upon being informed of the positive result, using the methods advised in the Government guidelines.

The prompt actions of the individual concerned meant that, unlike a number of other schools, we were not required to send any 'bubbles' or, indeed, the entire school community home to self-isolate so, it is therefore imperative that, should anyone receive contact from NHS Test and Trace or be experiencing symptoms of Covid-19, they should contact the school immediately and remain at home and wait for further guidance.

We have also placed around the school, flow charts giving advice to those with Coronavirus symptoms/someone in their household testing positive/being contacted by NHS Test and Trace etc. The flow chart gives advice on what should be done in each instance.

Please be assured that, if there is any risk to any of the school community at any time, we will be in contact immediately. As you know, we are not medics and all schools have been directed to seek advice from LCRC (London Coronavirus Response Cell) for any decisions they need to make.

Following my earlier correspondence, I again must insist that all parents and students respect our neighbours living close to the school – particularly in Hartford, Albert, Knoll and Parkhurst Roads. We have had reports of parents using foul and abusive language to our neighbours and this is totally unacceptable behaviour.

I will reiterate again that we cannot allow large number of students to congregate outside of school – not only for their own safety but, again, for the safety of our neighbours and whole school community.



Again, I must remind you of the arrangement we have made with Hall Place, just around the corner in Bourne Road, DA5 1PQ, where they have kindly agreed that parents can use their car park to drop off in the morning and wait for students to meet them there at the end of the school day. Hartford Road and the surrounding roads are always very crowded as they are narrow and already filled with many residents vehicles. Please therefore, DO NOT drop or pick up your son or daughter outside the school.

Again, we understand that the services TfL are running do not necessarily correspond with our start and finish times of the day, however, we are working with them and would urge parents to complain when the service is poor, to help to eventually, make things better. Students MUST NOT arrive at school earlier than their specified times as we have no facility to supervise them due to social distancing and bubbles. Therefore, if we allowed them on site before they could be safely supervised and anything should happen to them, we would not be insured. To reiterate, the earliest times that students should be on site are as follows:

8.15am: Years 7 and 10 and those Year 12 and 13 students who have registration that morning

8.30am: Years 8, 9 and 11.

A reminder that face masks should be worn by all students and staff in all communal inside areas of the school, except classrooms. Staff will be reminding students to put on their masks prior to leaving a lesson and, if they see any students not wearing a face mask, they will be challenging them.

All students in Key stages 3 and 4 will now have received their coloured lapel badges. It is imperative that these are worn at all times as it enables all staff to recognise which 'bubble' a student should be in.

Finally, again to protect everyone's safety, we would please ask that parents and carers do not visit the school site. Please contact the school, should your query be urgent.

### **sQuid Fobs**

A reminder to parents and carers that sQuid fobs can only be topped up at home – the catering staff are unable to top up fobs. Please ensure that there are funds on the fobs, before sending your son or daughter into school.

### **Lunch and After School Clubs**

Please note that sports clubs will be running from next week and students will be notified through signage that will be put up around the school. Alternatively, they can speak to a member of the PE department. Please keep an eye on the Blog for further information on lunch time and after school clubs.





## South Circular Coach

After receiving some feedback regarding a possible coach via the South Circular area, we can confirm below, two proposed coach routes. Timings are not yet available.

### Route 1

Beckenham Hill Station (Stop SB), London SE6 3AG  
Newquay Road (Stop BC)  
The Catford Broadway (Stop H)  
Torridon Road (Stop G)  
Hervey Road (Stop T)  
Shooters Hill Road, Baker Road (Stop SB)  
Eltham Station Lassa Road (Stop E)

### Route 2

Catford - Plassy Road Bus Stop (Stop F)  
Bellingham - Bellingham Road (Stop BQ)  
Southend - Southend Lane (Stop ST)  
Beckenham Hill - Green Man Community Hub (Stop SX)  
Beckenham - Beckenham Junction Station (Stop D)  
Shortlands - Bromley Road Shortlands Station (Stop C)  
Bromley - Widmore Road Kentish Way (Stop L)  
Bickley - Southborough Road Bickley Station (Stop B)  
Chislehurst - Chislehurst Station/Summer Hill (Stop A)  
Chislehurst - Bromley Lane/Chislehurst War Memorial (Stop S)



Please note that only one of these routes can be operational and the service will only run should we have enough students on board. This service will also be subsidised heavily by the school, in order for it to run. Therefore, should students decide to no longer use the coach after a period of time and the numbers decline, we may no longer be able to run the service.

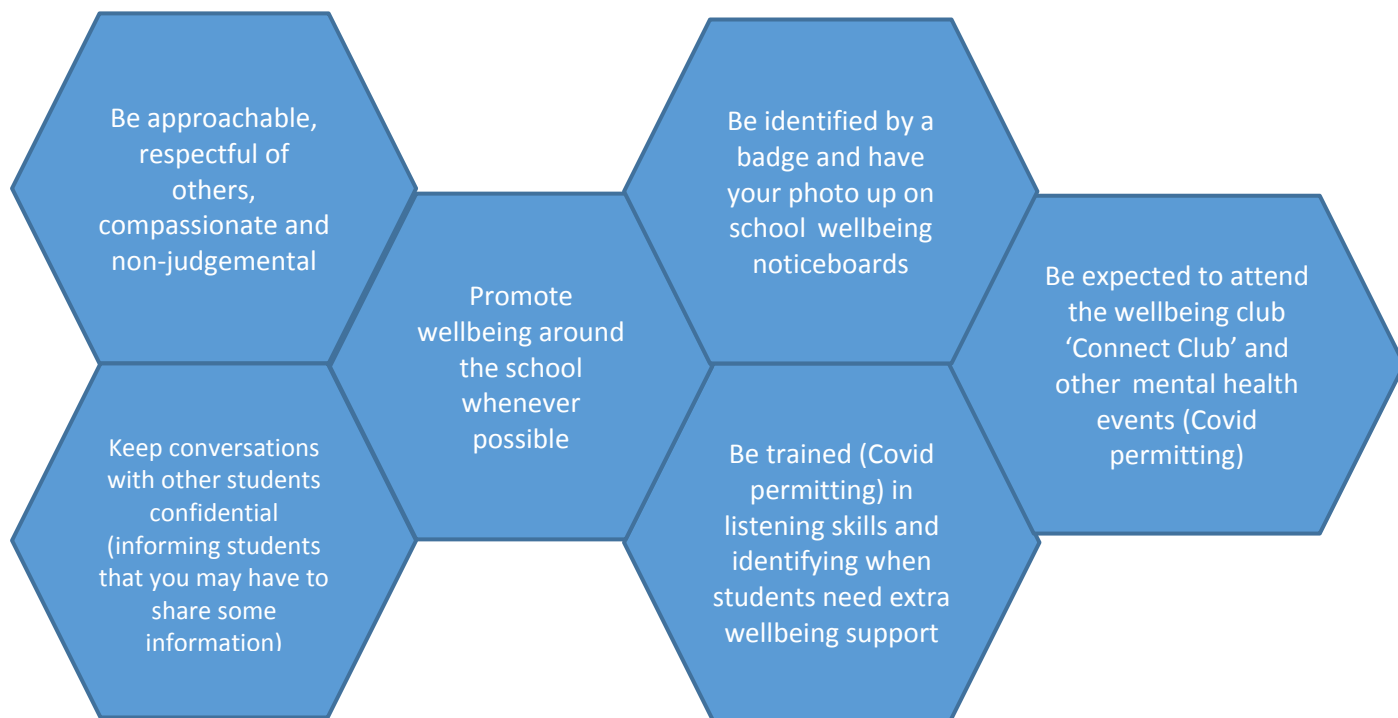
The cost of the coach will be £6.50, per day, return and we would be asking for payment to be made on a termly basis. A discount can be made if paid annually.

If this is still something you are interested in, please email [headsoffice@beths.bexley.sch.uk](mailto:headsoffice@beths.bexley.sch.uk), detailing your preferred route, the stop your son will be using and confirmation that you are happy to pay on a termly/annual basis.





## Becoming a Wellbeing Champion



The process for all students interested in becoming a Wellbeing Champion (including those who were Wellbeing Champions last year) is:

1. Write a few sentences about what wellbeing means to you and why you are interested in becoming a Wellbeing Champion at Beths. This should be done by Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September
2. Either submit this in person to Ms Brett-Smith or Ms Jones in the counselling room (next to C2), email us ([Counselling@beths.bexley.sch.uk](mailto:Counselling@beths.bexley.sch.uk)) or post in the Be Better Box (behind IEN). Don't forget to include your name!
3. Applicants will be invited to attend an interview with the Counsellors and successful students will be appointed as Wellbeing Champions.

## Student Corner

### **My Visit to the Birthplace, Childhood Home and Museum of Hans Christian Andersen by Ewan 8W.**

During my holiday in Denmark this summer I visited the birthplace, childhood home and museum of H.C. Andersen in Odense, Denmark. I learned a lot about him and with a few websites as well I made this fact file.

He was an incredible author and wrote many wonderful fairy tales including Clumsy Hans, Princess and the Pea, The Little Mermaid, The Snow Queen and The Ugly Duckling. The very popular Disney movie Frozen was inspired by his famous fairy tale called The Snow Queen and this is also thought to





have influenced The Chronicles of Narnia. The Little Mermaid is another popular fairy tale of his that also inspired the famous Disney movie of the same name. He has published over 156 fairy tales translated into over 125 languages, written poems, travelogues and novels.

He was born in a poor home shared by over 20 people and lived there from 1805-1807. He is known to have said that he was poor in material things but not in love as a child. He then moved to another house which he called his childhood home and shared it with 3 families which totalled to 12 people from 1807-1819. His father (Hans Andersen) was a shoemaker and died in 1816 from consumption after returning from war. The famous author remembered that his father made him toys when he was a young child and that he really enjoyed playing with them.

His mother (Anne Marie Andersdatter) was a cleaner and died in 1833 in extreme poverty from disease related to her being an alcoholic. Her life was hard after losing her husband and she had to work even more to support her son. She remarried and had a daughter who was called Karen Marie Andersen.

H.C Andersen started his education at a school for poor local children and at the age of 14 he moved to Copenhagen, Denmark. There he was discovered as an excellent singer with a great soprano voice and this allowed him to join The Royal Danish Theatre. The director of the theatre named Jonas Collin cared about Hans and helped him get a space at a grammar school in Slagelse, Denmark and convinced King Frederick VI to pay for part of the education fees. He was also sent to other schools and he is known to have suffered at one of them when living with his abusive schoolmaster who claimed that the abuse was to 'improve his character'.

He was born in Odense, Denmark on the 2nd April 1805 and died in Østerbro, Denmark on 4th August 1875 at the age of 70 of liver cancer. Before this happened he had fallen out of his bed and suffered serious injuries that he didn't recover fully from. He is known to have been in love with both men and women, he never married, had no children and it was thought that he was unhappy and lonely. He was a keen traveller and explored Europe. His popularity as an author provided him with invites to the homes of wealthy and influential people. He was cared for on his death bed by a dear friend and was not poor when he died.

#### Websites used

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hans\\_Christian\\_Andersen](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hans_Christian_Andersen)

[https://www.danishnet.com/culture/hans-christian-andersen/#:~:text=Hans%20Christian%20Andersen%20and%20his,3%20families%20\(12%20people\).](https://www.danishnet.com/culture/hans-christian-andersen/#:~:text=Hans%20Christian%20Andersen%20and%20his,3%20families%20(12%20people).)

<https://www.biography.com/writer/hans-christian-andersen>

[https://kids.kiddle.co/Hans\\_Christian\\_Andersen](https://kids.kiddle.co/Hans_Christian_Andersen)

