



# Beths Grammar School

Excellence - Community - Respect - Nurture

## Week Ending Friday 2 October 2020

### **Message from the Headteacher**

As you know, at the beginning of this week, we had to send the whole of Year 11 and an additional small group of Year 13 students home. This was due to a couple more individuals testing positive for COVID-19.

We received a number of queries as to why the whole of Year 11 were sent to self-isolate when we had not had to do the same with the Year 13 students. All our decisions are taken following advice from the London Coronavirus Response Cell (LCRC) and they felt that, as there had been fewer students who had come into contact with the individual in Year 13, due to how their timetables are put together, we should try to keep as many of them in school because of the amount of time they had had out during the period of lockdown.

In the case of Year 11, over half the year group had come into contact with the individual and the advice was that they should all be sent to self-isolate. This also makes teaching the whole year group simpler because all their lessons are now being taken virtually.

Further, it is important that, should your son or daughter be asked to self-isolate, we would ask that all parents please ensure that they do so. This is for the health and safety of not only the school but the wider community.

You will be aware that many schools in the country and, indeed locally, have been sending students home to self-isolate due to cases within their schools and, unfortunately, we know we may have to send more students home, should further cases arise. It is therefore important that we all continue to be vigilant and continue to wear our face masks in all communal areas within the school (except classrooms), on public transport etc. However, we have had many reports of students not adhering to the facemask rules on transport and within shops so I would please ask parents to also work with your sons and daughters to impress upon them the need to abide by these rules. The students themselves who, if they do test positive to COVID-19, may not experience bad symptoms, however, it is the older generation who again seem to be hit worse. A copy of the reminder from the DfE can be found at the end of my message.

Finally, a reminder to parents and carers to please not to park in Hartford Road or the surrounding areas and, if there is a dire emergency to do so, that you avoid parking over our neighbours' drives or on the zigzag lines outside the entrance to the school.



## Guidance on use of face covering when travelling to school or college

Children aged 11 and over are legally required to [wear a face covering on public transport in England](#), unless exempt for health, age or disability reasons.

In accordance with advice from Public Health England, we recommend that local authorities advise children and young people aged 11 and over to wear a face covering when travelling on dedicated school transport, unless they are exempt. Coronavirus (COVID-19) usually spreads by droplets from coughs, sneezes and speaking. When used correctly, wearing a face covering may reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) droplets in certain circumstances, helping to protect others.

Schools should support local authorities in promoting the use of face coverings when travelling to and from school, and help them to resolve any issues of non-compliance where appropriate.

The [‘Hands. Face. Space.’ campaign](#) urges everyone to continue to wash their hands, cover their face and make space to control infection rates. The NHS has released a [‘Hands. Face. Space.’ video](#) that may be a useful resource when communicating the importance of wearing a face covering on transport directly to

### **NHS COVID-19 App ‘Protect your loved Ones. Download the app.’**

The NHS COVID-19 app, can be downloaded for free in England and Wales and is the fastest way to see if you are at risk from coronavirus.

The app has a number of tools to protect you, including contact tracing, local area alerts and venue check-in and uses proven technology from Apple and Google, designed to protect every user’s privacy.

You will see that, around the school site, there are QR codes which you can scan into the app to log your location.





### Nigerian Independence Day

On Thursday 1 October we celebrated Nigeria's Independence Day, which is observing its 60th anniversary this year!

On this day in 1960, Africa's most populous nation declared its independence from British colonial rule. The momentous occasion signified the sovereignty and unity of Nigeria's 36 states and was marked with fireworks, dancing, and a state banquet. Over the years, Independence Day has been an opportunity for Nigerians to showcase their rich and varied culture, from *suya* (spicy meat skewer) and jollof rice (one-pot tomato rice) to *juju* music and afrobeats.



Happy Independence Day, Nigeria!

Next week, the Multicultural Committee will be writing an article about Black History month.

### *Top Achieving Students of the Month*

*With so much bad news around at the moment, due to the current pandemic, we think it's time for us to share some good news with you all so, each month, we will celebrate the students in each year group who have achieved the most amount of commendations. So, starting with September, a huge round of applause goes to:*

*Oluwanifemi 7A  
Madhav 7W  
Jola 8H  
Joel 9E  
Jack 10H  
Aidan 11H*





## Sports are back!



We are delighted to advise that Basketball and Football clubs are back in action! Check out our social media pages for more photos.

## THE GREAT BETHS BAKE OFF



With the Great British Bake Off returning to our screens, we thought we would ask members of staff to share, each week, their favourite baking recipes. Kicking off with the Headteacher, Mr Blyghton, who today, shares his favourite Carrot Cake recipe.

### Mr Blyghton's Easy Peasy Carrot Cake Recipe

#### Ingredients

- 150ml sunflower oil
- 180g self-raising flour
- 1tsp ground cinnamon or mixed spice
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 2 carrots grated - medium/large whatever
- 110g soft brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 90g golden syrup





## Icing

- 100g cream cheese or light philadelphia
- 50g butter
- 250g icing sugar
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp cinnamon (optional)



## Preparation Method

1. Put everything in a bowl (except sunflower oil) and mix until well combined - then add oil in 2 lots and mix again - that's it!
2. Pour into lined 8" x 8" tray tin. Or a (900g) Loaf tin (with a liner or lined)
3. Bake at 180°C for approximately 25 to 30 minutes or about 30-40 minutes if it's a loaf.
4. Leave to cool in tin for 30 minutes and tip out.

If you're trying to be good ditch the icing, the cake is so good you can do without it - but it's GOOD with the icing too! I also quite like to throw a few walnuts on top - see the picture above of the one I made last weekend.

# Parents Association

You are all invited to .....

## AGM Virtual Meeting - Tuesday 13 October 2020 at 7pm

As a parent of a student at Beths Grammar School you are invited to join us at the Beths Parents Association's AGM. This is an opportunity to meet likeminded parents who want to better the student learning experience. We therefore would love for you to join the meeting, hear what we have been up to over the last year and what we have achieved as an Association for the school and the students. It will also be a great opportunity to participate in the conversation about the projects that we will be launching this coming year.

## We need your help

This year we also have two vacancies to fill: the roles of treasurer and vice treasurer, for those of you who want to be more involved. Our current treasurer and vice treasurer will be supporting you during this coming year, if required, as they will stay on as ordinary members of the committee.

**The AGM will be hosted via a virtual platform. For details of how to join the meeting or to register your interest in one of these vacancies, please contact us on our email: [beths.parents.association@gmail.com](mailto:beths.parents.association@gmail.com)**

**To stay abreast of the Parents Association activities**







- Email any queries to [beths.parents.association@gmail.com](mailto:beths.parents.association@gmail.com)
- Join us on our Facebook or Instagram page [#bethsparentsassociation](#)
- Check out our page on the **School Blog** every Friday

### Not able to commit to the Parents Association, no problem you can still support us by

- Choosing **Beths Parents Association** as your nominated charity on **AmazonSmile** or **Easy fundraising** ([www.easyfundraising.org.uk/Beths PA](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/Beths PA))

Thanks you for your support  
 We hope to see you there  
 Kind regards  
 Beths PA committee

### After School Clubs

Monday	After School	Rugby	Year7	Year 8	-
Wednesday	After School	Basketball	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Thursday	After School	Football	Year 7	Year 8	-

### Bexley Eco-Festival

The annual Free Bexley Eco-Festival, organised by The London Borough of Bexley, London South East Colleges, and Cory Riverside Energy, is going virtual on 17 October this year.

This free event will give residents tips and resources for living more sustainable lives, reducing their environmental impacts, and getting more involved in their local community.

Sign up via the website [www.bexleyecofest.co.uk](http://www.bexleyecofest.co.uk) and find out lots more about the event.



### The Mayor of Bexley's Christmas Card Competition

Every year, the Mayor of Bexley sends approximately 1,000 cards out to other Mayors, Councils, staff and residents. This year, he wants something a bit different and has asked schools to set the challenge to their students.

He plans to pick three Christmas designs from the entries received, with the three winners winning a £20 amazon voucher.





Please send your design, on an A4 piece of paper (one side) to:

The Mayor's Office  
Civic Office, 2 Watling Street  
Bexleyheath  
Kent DA6 7AT

Please include your name, age and that you attend Beths Grammar School, along with a contact email, address and phone number.

The designs will be chosen on 6 November 2020

### **Thought For the Week**

*'The Individual who says it is not possible should move out of the way of those doing it.'* – Tricia Cunningham

### **Upcoming Events**

Monday 5 October	GCE Exams commence
Thursday 8 October	Year 8 Student Council Meeting
Tuesday 13 October	PA AGM – Virtual Meeting
Thursday 15 October	Year 9 Student Council Meeting
Friday 16 October	Break for Half Term
Monday 2 November	Return from Half Term
	GCSE Exams commence
	11+ Testing

