



Beths Grammar School

Excellence - Community - Respect - Nurture

Week Ending Friday 9 October 2020

Contrary to the student planners, which were produced ahead of lockdown, we will no longer be having a Year 6 Open Event on Saturday 9 October so school WILL BE OPEN TO ALL STAFF AND STUDENTS, AS NORMAL, ON MONDAY 12 OCTOBER.

We have a number of students who are coming to school in football/rugby boots and wearing them throughout the entire school day. Walking on a hard service with football boots on is unhealthy for your feet and, over time, also wears down your studs, affecting your game and also can cause serious injury to other players as they can become sharp. Additionally, it means that, especially with the current wet weather, mud is continuously being brought into the school and this takes our cleaners away from their role to sanitise classrooms and corridors for the safety of us all – which is obviously more important in the current climate. If your child has football/rugby/Games he must come into school in trainers and change into his boots once on the field.

A reminder to students that, once they leave the school site, they are breaking the law if they mix in groups of more than six.

We have received numerous reports, not only from our neighbours in the Village, but also from retailers and restaurant owners in Bexleyheath that our students are not adhering to these rules. Please can you again reiterate the importance of why your son or daughter should adhere to the 'rule of six'.

If your son or daughter is tested for Covid-19, please alert the school and do not allow them to return to Beths until they have received a negative test result. Again, should they be unfortunate enough to test positive, please inform the school immediately so that we can alert the LCRC for guidance.

We have had complaints from our neighbours on Hartford Road, who have told us that vehicles are still blocking their driveways as they drop students off. Additionally, staff have reported that parents are dropping students off by the gates and stopping on the yellow zig zag lines. Please note that even stopping on these lines is illegal and we have noticed an increase in traffic wardens in this area.

We again, remind parents not to use Hartford Road but instead, drop students either at Hall Place where they have given permission, or alternatively, drop them at a distance for them to walk the rest of the way into school.



Year 11 House Debating

The first debate of the Year 11 House debate was a great success this week and took place online. The quality of the speeches was excellent with some fantastic delivery into the camera. The floor debate was articulate and cutting as the teams took apart the arguments of the opposing team in a highly forensic manner.

Results were:

11A – 22 points

11C (A team) - 20 points

Year 7 Cubism

During their French lesson, Year 7's were asked to create some cubism artwork with a full description in French of their choice of images, shapes and colours. Here are a couple of examples of the students work.



Life after Beths

By Elgin, Year 13 Leaver 2020

Due to circumstances out of our control, my time at Beths in Year 13 was cut short leading onto six months of nervous anticipation (and PlayStation gaming). A new path in my life journey was about to begin. The start of university. For me, unlike many, this will only be a thirty-minute journey from my house to King's College London University where I study Dentistry, but an exciting change none the less.

So far, I have had a unique experience where virtually all my teaching has been delivered online (which has essentially converted my bedroom into a classroom). Admittedly, it has been challenging to adapt to these new settings especially with the difficulty of the content being taught which is a step up from A-levels. However, with some hard work and perseverance, I am starting to find my feet and settle into my course. I am thoroughly enjoying my time at university and I've already joined a dental society and gospel society where I have met several great people.

An important factor that has helped my transition into university, is a lesson I learned throughout my time at Beths. That you should never be afraid to ask for help and to always use the resources around you. This has proven to be invaluable already and is a lesson I will never forget. I hope you all enjoy your time at Beths and I wish you the best of luck for the future!





World Mental Health Day – Sunday 10 October 2020 – this year's theme is 'mental health for all'

People around the world are facing increasing mental health issues during the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, this year's World Mental Health Day is even more important for us all and a link to what is taking place can be found below.



Please click on the following link for much more information: www.wmhd2020.com

THE GREAT BETHS BAKE OFF

Our Great Beths Bake Off continues this week with Mr Neylan taking up the gauntlet with bread week. Mr Neylan has opted to share his bread cake recipe – heralding from Sheffield, this reminds him of his local home town. These are really easy to bake and we would love to see you try them!

Ingredients

- 1.5 lb (675 g) strong white flour
- Half-ounce fresh yeast (preferred) or 1 teaspoon dried yeast
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- 4 oz (113 g) lard (or 'Trex' could be used as a lighter substitute)
- 2 teaspoons salt
- Three-quarters of a pint (400 ml/15 fl oz) lukewarm water

Method

1. Mix the flour, dried yeast, sugar and salt in a big bowl. If using fresh yeast, cream it with the sugar and a little of the water then add it to the flour and salt.
2. Mix to a smooth dough with the rest of the water, knead, then leave to rise.





3. *Knock it back when risen.*
4. *Cut the lard into small pieces and press these into the dough.*
5. *Shape the dough into one big, or two smaller, flat rounds, leaving it lumpy with the lard.*
6. *Put on to a greased baking sheet and leave to prove.*
7. *When the dough has almost doubled in size, coat it with beaten egg, if you would like to see a darker colour, and bake it initially for **10 minutes** on the bottom of a pre-heated oven at 425 F/mark 7/220 C, **then reduce the temperature** to 375 F/gas mark 5/190 C and bake for another 20-35 minutes (depending on whether you have cooked one large or two small loaves) until the bread reaches a golden colour. Test to see it is cooked by tapping the bottom of the bread - if it sounds hollow you should be in business!*



Next week is 'chocolate week' on the show and Mr Beaney can't wait to show you what his favourite chocolate recipe is!...#bethsbakeoff

Please see below a snapshot from the DfE's website on the wearing of facemasks:

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





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 and find out lots more about the event.



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

To stay abreast of the Parents Association activities

- Email any queries to 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)

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	-

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

“When someone tells me ‘no’, it doesn’t meant I can’t do it, it simply means I can’t do it with them.”

– Karen E. Quinones Miller





Upcoming Events

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
	Start of Anti-Bullying Week
	GCSE Exams commence
	11+ Testing

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