



Beths Blog

Week ending Friday 23 February 2018

During the final week of last half term, we were delighted to welcome a group of nine Chinese students, along with their chaparone, to Beths to sample life in a UK school. Here are three of our own students accounts who spent time with our visitors:

When I was chosen as an MEP student to represent my form and the school, I was elated. I was glad to be given the opportunity to have a Chinese buddy and improve my Mandarin skills in ways I couldn't before. I was expecting a very long and boring week but it wasn't. I had a lot of fun meeting new people and getting to know the Chinese culture.

I am delighted to have been given the chance to show off all I have learnt since the school year began. Going into the experience I didn't know how to react, I didn't know who I would meet and I couldn't have guessed what would be in store. I did what I needed to so I could help my buddy improve and see the English culture.

Overall I am pleased to say that I have represented my school well and showed what a great school Beths Grammar is. I wish the best for my Chinese buddy in the future.

Maxwell Sanni, 7H

When I heard about the concept of being a Chinese buddy, I was truly amazed. From that day forth I promised myself that I would work as hard as I could to get there. I truly did work hard and the day of choosing came. As I sat in my seat, unable to catch my breath, I was not too sure that I would get chosen for this breath taking job. After a few minutes, my form were told to stand up. I felt butterflies in my stomach as my teacher listed all of our accomplishments. She then started talking about me and said, "Nathan will be a Chinese buddy." I was overflowing with joy and little did I know that it my overflow would last 3 weeks! I told my parents and siblings and they also filled with joy. Two weeks later, I discovered that they were coming on that day. I made sure to dress up better than I had ever done and to polish my shoes. The hour I had been waiting for finally came. As I meandered to the reception, my heart was pounding like a train down the tracks. After a few minutes, I saw the Chinese students. I was elated as I saw them. They were also excited as I saw never-ending smiles on their faces. My teacher told me and my fellow friends who we were going to be buddies with. I pinpointed a smart-looking boy with glasses. Many others desired to be with him as well. But to my uttermost luck, I was paired with him. His name was Jack and we became very good friends. When my class first met him, everyone went silent and started acting strange. Despite this, Jack also made friends. To my surprise, he knew very little English so we struggled to communicate but my hard work in Mandarin classes paid off as I understood some of what he said. We had amazing moments and joyful times. I



decided to stay every day after school for thirty minutes to learn more. I now know how to pronounce some Mandarin words properly and have more of a desire to learn more Mandarin. I think it has been a golden opportunity for me and I believe I have utilised it well.

Nathan Adeyeno 7W

你好我叫Thanish, I'll be talking about my experience with my Chinese buddy 向上(Sun). First when i was waiting in the reception I was so excited to meet my buddy. I felt so eager to see him. I also felt so nervous. After a couple of minutes I saw the students. After all this anticipation the moment has finally come. I was so proud of myself to represent Beths Grammar School and my form, Eardley. I was also lucky to be part of the MEP (Mandarin Excellence Programme).

After the group of Chinese people entered the reception I guessed who my buddy was, I couldn't decide between the two, I couldn't decide who was Sun until the teacher announced who was with who. When I was introducing myself I spoke so slowly but when I heard Sun talk, he spoke so quickly, I couldn't understand half of his introduction! Then I told him that I didn't understand so he spoke slowly enough so I could understand.

I told him that I would help him speak English and he told me he would help me in 普通话 (Mandarin). I also taught him a bit about England and its culture and he found it interesting. It was also nice to meet the other buddies.

I gave him the ruler that says 'BETHS GRAMMAR SCHOOL' on it. I felt so happy that I showed him how good Beths Grammar School is. I hope my buddy will speak English very well. Good Luck to him and everyone.

Thanish Senthil, 7E



Inspired Through Sport – Wednesday 7 February



On Wednesday 7 February we welcomed Team GB Athlete, Tommy Ramdhan into school for our Inspired Through Sport Day.

Students have so far raised a fabulous £2,010.18 with, hopefully, plenty more to come!



Ski Trip to Axamer Lizum, Austria

Well done to the boys who went on the ski trip to Austria. It was an eventful trip where all students could ski by the end of the trip, including Mr Edymann who learnt in four days! They had all probably been inspired by the Winter Olympics currently taking place in South Korea.



The boys embraced the beautiful mountains of Austria and it was lovely to see all of them learn and help each other on the slopes and, to most importantly, look out for each other.

Thank you to Ms Dennis who organised an amazing trip for Beths students from Years 8-11.



The BRIT School

We are delighted to announce that Year 11 student, Kobe Heath, has just secured himself a place at the prestigious BRIT School from September 2018. The BRIT School is a one of a kind Performing Arts and Technology School and passed Alumni include Adele, Amy Winehouse, Leona Lewis and Jessie J!

Year 10 Work Experience

We are currently looking for additional placements for some of our Year 10 students to undertake their work experience. If you know of any potential companies – through family, friends, neighbours – that may be open to take under 16s for one or two weeks in July (Monday 2 – Friday 13 July 2018), please contact Miss Abigail Walker on msawalker@beths.bexley.sch.uk who would be very keen to speak with you.

Your help with this is very much appreciated.