



# Best of the Beths

ISSUE FOUR

31/01/2020

## INCLUDED IN THIS MONTH:

1. NEW YEAR:  
SPORT
2. NEW YEAR:  
BOOKS
3. GUEST  
WRITER:  
JAMES  
ANDOH
4. FOODBANK  
COLLEC-  
TION
5. CHINESE  
NEW YEAR
6. AMERICA  
VS IRAN
7. SPORTING  
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8. TECHNOL-  
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VIEWING  
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11. TOP GOAL  
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12. FIFA:  
PLAYERS  
TO BUY
13. FIFA: TEAM  
OF THE  
MONTH
14. SPORTS  
QUIZ
15. QUIZZING  
CORNER  
ANSWERS

## New Year, New Sport!

It is the first sports re-  
view of the new year,  
and Beths are doing just  
as well as ever before.  
Many games have been  
won in basketball, foot-  
ball and rugby, with  
athletics and cricket be-  
ginning again in the  
summer.

In the basketball, Year 7  
have triumphed in both  
of their games, beating  
Leigh UTC 24-5 and nar-  
rowly sending Erith out  
of the cup – the score

there 20-13.

Year 8 managed to just  
about beat Northfleet  
Technology School, win-  
ning 31-30, and pro-  
gressing to round two  
of the County Cup.

Football has been suc-  
cessful too, with Year 8  
comfortably beating  
Welling School in the  
Area Cup Quarter -  
Finals 5-2, but the B  
team lost 4-2 to Hurst-  
mere.

Unfortunately, the Year  
10's lost 2-0 to St Paul's  
in the county cup Quar-  
ter – Final.

In the rugby, year 8 beat  
Bullers Wood 45-5 in a  
friendly and the sixth  
form ( the first 11 ) beat  
Oakwood Park Grammar  
School 40-5.

**Daniel C**



## New Year, New Reads!

A general survey was  
given to a sample of  
students at Beths about  
their favourite books of  
the decade. In a bid to  
encourage more of us  
to be active readers,  
here is a list of books  
that were raised on a  
number of occasions  
which you may find in-  
teresting too! In the

fantasy genre *The Trials  
of Apollo Series* by Rick  
Riordan.

Popular in young adult  
novels were *The Rest of  
Us Just Live Here* by Pat-  
rick Ness and the  
*Noughts and Crosses*  
series by Malorie Black-  
man.

An extremely popular

graphic novel, *They Called Us  
Enemy* by George Takei, Justin  
Eisinger, Steven Scott and Har-  
mony Becker.

As well as an interesting auto-  
biography, *Dreams from My  
Father: A Story of Race and  
Inheritance* by Barack Obama.

Make it your reso-  
lution to read  
more!

**Levi A**



# The Guest Edit—Creative Writing Club

In this month's edition we are including a piece of imaginative writing that has been submitted through Mrs Lees' Creative Writing Club for KS3. The club takes place on a Wednesday in B2 during lunchtime. Please come and join to enjoy writing for fun!



*Ten.*

*The blizzard of icy snow  
grazed the frozen surface of  
my pale, white skin.*

*Nine.*

*My lungs were swamped with the fierce  
icy winds that engulfed the surrounding  
air.*

*Eight.*

*The white shimmering snow twisted  
around my numbed, broken down fin-  
gers.*

*Seven.*

*A deep crimson gash that ran across my  
left leg stained the snow that ferociously  
wrapped around it a similar shade.*

*Six.*

*The thunderous echoes of the howling  
wind reverberated through my near-  
lifeless body.*

*Five.*

*My heavy, anxious breaths soon became  
sluggish and weak, my fatigued body  
worn out and drained.*

*Four.*

*My fractured arm laid  
lifeless under a glacial,  
white blanket.*

*Three.*

*The strength that I once had built up in  
my hands had deteriorated, only the em-  
bers of a flame still left inside me.*

*Two.*

*I released my weak grip. The heavy pres-  
sure of the wind pressed against my face  
and the sensation of falling wrapped my  
body in a piercing fear.*

*One.*

*I rested my tired eyes. My mind was en-  
tangled with the only fate that rested at  
the bottom of a long, dreadful fall, and in  
my final moments of life, I accepted it.*

*Zero.*

**James Andoh**



Well done

James! We are  
really impressed  
with the way in which you have struc-  
tured your imaginative writing. A special  
mention to Alfie Spike and Giounison  
Makris who were the runners up.

# Bexley Foodbank Collection



On Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup> of December, Bexley Foodbank came into our school to collect all of the food that we had been collecting for them – and there was plenty of it! Each form group designed a hamper that had a Christmassy theme and then they put all of their donations inside the hamper. There were some amazing hampers, and Gill Bates, from Bexley Foodbank, thought so too.

Bexley Food Bank most commonly has volunteers such as DofE students and people over the age of 18, which are DBS checked. However, anyone who wants to get involved outside of school need just visit the Bexley Food Bank website; it has tons of information on what is going on and periodically, there are opportunities at offer for anyone wishing to help this association.

We asked her a few questions about Bexley Foodbank and why she enjoyed being involved in it:

## **1. Why did you first get involved in food banks?**

*I'd been working for the police for twenty-two years and I wanted to do something else within the community.*

## **2. How long have you been working at the food bank for?**

*I've been working at the food bank since July 2013.*

## **3. How do you know that people are genuine and aren't just there for free food – do you need verification that they are struggling?**

*Luckily each person has a voucher and social services assess them and then decide whether or not they require the help of the food bank.*

## **4. Does each person have a limit of how much food they can take?**

*Well it depends on the size of the family really, but you're only allowed to take 3-5 helpings of food every six months.*

## **5. Do you run the food bank alone or you do you have help from other people?**

*I have over one hundred and thirty volunteers that help me run the food bank and this has allowed us to help loads of people over the past years. In my first year of working at the food bank, we fed 1049 people – in 2018 we fed 7833.*

Our school showed a great example in helping our community. We held a Christmas hamper competition, where each form in Years 7 and 8 created a Christmas hamper containing donations such as food essentials, toiletries etc. Great hampers were produced by all forms and the winners for both years were Cray!



**Daniel C and Levi A**

# Happy Chinese New Year!



## What is Chinese New Year?

Chinese New Year is the most important holiday in China. In 2020, Chinese New Year begins on January 25<sup>th</sup> and marks the beginning of the year of the rat. It is also known as the 'Spring Festival' or the 'Lunar New Year'. Each new year represents the characteristics of one of the 12 zodiac animals: the rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, rooster, dog and pig.

## What's the story?

Long, long ago, there was no Chinese zodiac. The Jade Emperor wanted to select 12 animals to be his guards. He sent an immortal being into man's world to spread the message that the earlier one went through the Heavenly Gate, the better the rank one would have.

The next day, animals set off towards the Heavenly Gate. Rat got up very early. On his way to the gate, he encountered a river. He had to stop there, owing to the swift current. After waiting a long time, Rat noticed Ox about to cross the river and swiftly jumped into Ox's ear.

The diligent Ox did not mind at all and simply continued. After crossing the river, he raced towards the palace of the Jade Emperor. Suddenly, Rat jumped out of Ox's ear and dashed to the feet of the Emperor. Rat won first place and Ox was second.

Tiger and Rabbit came third and fourth because both are fast and competitive, but Tiger was faster. (Rabbit got across the river by hopping on stepping stones and a floating log.)

Good-looking Dragon was fifth and was immediately noticed by the Jade Emperor, who said Dragon's son could be sixth. But Dragon's son didn't come with him that day. Just then, Snake came forward and said Dragon was his adoptive father; so, Snake ranked sixth.

Horse and Goat arrived. They were very kind and modest and each let the other go first. The Jade Emperor saw how polite they were and ranked them seventh and eighth.

Monkey had fallen well behind. But he jumped between trees and stones, and caught up to be ninth. Last were Rooster, Dog, and Pig. These 12 animals became guards of the Heavenly Gate.

## **Tom B**





# America faces Iran

President Donald Trump made the killing of Iranian general Qassem Suleimani a theme of his re-election campaign on Thursday, drawing cheers from thousands at a rally when he said the death saved lives and delivered “American justice”.

At the campaign rally in Toledo, Ohio, Trump spent a lengthy part of his stump speech defending his order to kill Suleimani and rejecting criticism from Democrats who say he overstepped his authority with the US military’s drone strike against the commander of Iran’s military al-Quds force at Baghdad airport a week ago.

He accused Suleimani of organising violent protests by Iran-backed groups at the US embassy in Baghdad earlier this month. Trump, who frequently discusses his support of the US military, said that if he had not sent US troops to protect the embassy, the demonstrators might have broken in and killed Americans or taken them hostage, a repeat of the 2011 storming of a US diplomatic facility in Benghazi, Libya, in which the US ambassador was killed.

“Last week the United States once again took the bold and decisive action to save American lives and deliver American justice,” he said.

Trump and his top advisers have said Suleimani was masterminding “imminent” attacks against American targets in the Middle East, but have drawn criticism for not providing more detail to back up the claim. “Suleimani was actively planning new attacks and he was looking very

very seriously at our embassies, and not just the embassy in Baghdad, but we stopped him and we stopped him quickly and we stopped him cold,” Trump said.

Suleimani’s death prompted an Iranian retaliatory missile strike on Tuesday night against two bases hosting US and coalition troops in Iraq. Trump said he had been ready to launch retaliatory strikes until he was told that no American casualties had resulted.

While tensions remain, a broad war between the US and Iran has not erupted and Democrats are battling to rein-in Trump’s ability to launch a new conflict in the Middle East.

## Hamadin M



# 2020 Sporting Events

With the beginning of a new decade 2020 has a lot of amazing sporting events to look forward to, which we should all be excited for.



Firstly, the Olympics are returning this year! The Olympics will be held from July 24<sup>th</sup> to August 9<sup>th</sup>, the Paralympic Games will THEN be held from August 25<sup>th</sup> to September 6<sup>th</sup>. This year Japan will be hosting the most famous sporting event ever! What will Tokyo hold for the world's greatest athletes? Who will win the most gold medals?

In Football, there are also some key events to look forward to. Starting with the FA Cup Final-23<sup>rd</sup> May which last year Manchester City triumphed 6-0 against Watford. Could Manchester City do it again this year? Quickly followed by the UEFA Champions League Final-30<sup>th</sup> May, can Real Madrid reclaim their title? Finally we have Euro 2020-June 12<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> July, can England pull through with an injured Kane and Rashford?

Not to mention lots of exciting events in tennis, cricket, Basketball with their NBA final in June and both the Tour de France and Le Mans 24 hour race in June.

With so much to look forward to this year in sport, I am sure that we will see many an exciting matches to watch!

Ben S

# Technology in the last decade



2019 is gone and 2020 is in, so I will be looking at how far humanity has really come in the past ten years.

If any of you are not the best as science the term 'quantum machine' will sound like something out of a sci-fi movie. The quantum machine follows the laws of quantum physics. Ironically something so advanced, was made at the start of the decade.

In 2011, more than 2 billion people were using the internet and some may say we rely on it

In 2012 Space X's Dragon spacecraft became the first commercial spaceship to fly.

In 2015 NASA announced that they had found liquid water on Mars.

In 2019 the first picture of a black hole was captured inside Galaxy Messier 88.

During the last decade, smartphones have maintained their high popularity and Apple Inc. launched the first iPad.

Let's see what the next decade brings for us as we bid to live in a more environmentally conscience planet!

Kwaku



# Interviewing Chinedu

Chinedu is an up and coming basketball player here at Beths Grammar School.

**What was your first reward ever received? What was your most prestigious reward ever received?**

*Well, my first reward ever received was colours which I acquired from the winning the Under 15 Kent Cup last year. My most prestigious reward ever has to be Junior Sportsman as this reward isn't handed out lightly.*

**What sports do you do other than Basketball? Would you like to change sports?**

*I also take part in the schools football team, Athletics and the school rugby team. I would like to stay with basketball as it's really fun and I'm quite good at it.*

**Who is the best on your team and if you could make any improvements what would you do for the sport**

*As a team I believe our entire team has worked exceptionally hard but if I had to choose one person I would have to pick Luke in year ten. He is outstanding in what he does on the court and has made lots of improvement over his time playing basketball.*

*I think in year ten basketball is cared less about than football due to the fact we play less matches. In the current team, I think we have the prime players available and so I wouldn't change it.*

**What was your hardest game ever in basketball and how did you tackle it?**

*Well my hardest game must have been against Trinity. It was more of a series, the first match we narrowly won by ten points. The next game we won by one singular point! That game brought the best out of everyone and everyone tried their hardest.*

**How did you adjust on your game to match how they were playing?**

*We had to do our best to play faster as their speed was impeccable. We need to be more aware around us and make sure our passing lanes were clear and the ball could get through with no turnovers.*

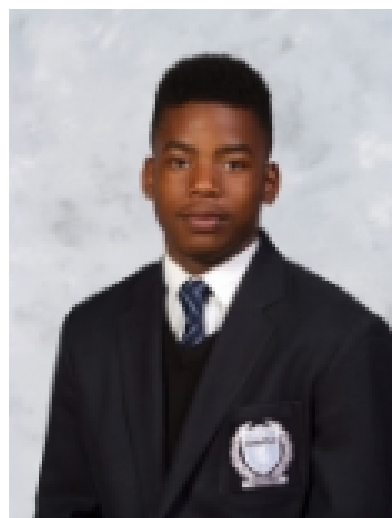
**How did you feel during your first ever basketball game and how do you feel like you've progressed so far**

*I believe I did not play that well during my first games I couldn't layup the ball and was not able to shoot at all. But with all the experience I've gathered I feel confident with how play and score a fair amount of points per game now.*

**Why did you begin playing basketball? Who influenced you?**

*I started playing basketball in year 8. Just watching the older boys play and others in general just made me want to pursue the game and I found it very fun to play and grew fond of the game and started playing regularly.*

**David A**



# The Decade Rewind — 2010-2019

Happy New Year! 2010 – 2019 has been an exciting decade and today I want to go through some of the most important events of the 2010s.

## Brexit

On 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2016 a referendum was held in the UK to decide if the UK should remain in the European Union or leave it. More than 30 million people voted, and Leave won by 51.9 per cent to 48.1 per cent. The reason we wanted to leave is because we were paying a lot of money to the EU and don't want their laws. Most people are regretting their decision and a second referendum could happen. Finally, after years of going uncertainty we have finally left, marking the date today on 31st January!

## FIFA World Cup

The FIFA world cups were very exciting this year with England performing very well and nearly winning and a lot of underdogs proving themselves. Most people got involved and countries were cheering each other on.

## British Prime Ministers

We have had a lot of changes this year mainly because of Brexit. From Gordon Brown to David Cameron and Theresa May to Boris Johnson. The longest serving prime minister out of these is David Cameron for 6 years.

**David O**





# Top Goal scorers in History

## **Robin van Persie — 144 GOALS**

It's not easy taking over from Thierry Henry as your club's main striker, but Robin van Persie did as good a job of it as anyone could expect, finding the net 96 times for the Gunners in the league.

## **Thierry Henry — 176 GOALS**

Widely regarded as the best player to ever grace the Premier League, Thierry Henry's record as the top scoring foreigner, which had stood for almost two decades, seemed like it would never be broken.

## **Sergio Aguero — 177 GOALS**

After a decade of incredible feats with Manchester City, the Argentine striker truly cemented his Premier League legacy by breaking two records in one day by becoming the top scoring overseas player and the player with the most hat-tricks.



Pharrell

# The Fifa Segment— Players to buy

## **Gen Shoji**

French League Player

*The latest league player, Gen Shoji from the French league stats are incredibly appealing if you can fit him in a squad. His stats are definitely not the problem, but after playing multiple games to get him you will have to figure out where to put him and who to put around him. This late in FIFA not many players have a French league defence as players from the French league cannot compete with other broken Centre Backs. If this card was in Serie A or maybe the English Premier League, I would have to complete him however, due to him playing in the French League he is not worth the time or effort.*



Reuben H

# The Fifa Segment— Team of the month



## Team of the Month - Show Your Squad

To start this issue we have the team of the month from Reuben in 8W. He plays a 4-2-3-1 central in game and this is where he plays everyone.

**ST-Dries Mertens** - TOTGS

**LAM-Yannik Bolasie** - RTTF EL

**CAM-Roberto Baggio** - ICON

**RAM-Matteo Politano** - Serie A League Player

**CDM-Allan** - Rare Gold

**CDM-Pep Guardiola** - ICON

**LB-Marcos Acuna** - IF

**CB-David Luiz** - Flashbacks SBC

**CB-Juan Jesus** - RTTF

**RB-Juan Cuadrado** - TOTGS

**GK-Alisson Becker** - Rare Gold

My team is a three league hybrid which means that there are players from three different leagues. With this particular team I have reached Gold Two in FUT Champions. As well as this, I have a positive record for all game modes.

However, if you think that you have a better team than me then please come to B3 during lunchtime on a Tuesday to apply to have your team featured.

**Reuben**

## Quizzing Corner

- Q.1) Which country does The Haka in rugby?
- Q.2) Who is hosting the 2020 Olympics?
- Q.3) Which two teams are involved in the Merseyside derby?
- Q.4) Who is top of the premier league?
- Q.5) How long is an Olympic swimming pool?
- Q.6) How many matches did Muhammad Ali lose in his entire career?
- Q.7) What is the nickname for Crystal Palace Football Club?
- Q.8) What is the name of the Barcelona stadium?
- Q.9) Which English football team play at St James' Park
- Q.10) Which English football team play at Bramall Lane?

The solved answers will be in next month's Best of the Beths.

**Tom**



## Quizzing Corner — Answers

- Q.1) What are the two ways in which you can qualify for Euro 2020? - 24 teams will qualify for the tournament. Since there are four places left there will be a play off with just a final and a semi-final.
- Q.2) Who qualifies for Euro 2020 through Nations League? - The top four in each group with the most goal difference and points will qualify.
- Q.3) How long does the competition last? - 30/11/19 to 12/7/2020
- Q.4) What cities and stadiums are hosting Euro 2020? - Wembley stadium in London, England; Hampden park in Glasgow, Scotland; Aviva stadium in Dublin, Republic of Ireland; Stadio Olimpico in Rome, Italy; Allianz arena in Munich, Germany; Baku Olympic stadium in Baku, Azerbaijan
- Q.5) What does UEFA stand for? - Union of European football associations
- Q.6) How many goals have been scored in the competition so far? - 801
- Q.7) How many goals have England scored in the competition so far? - 37
- Q.8) Who is the top scorer in the competition so far? - Harry Kane
- Q.9) Who has scored the most goals for their international team? - Ali Daie
- Q.10) Who has scored the most goals for England? - Wayne Rooney