



BEST OF THE BETHS

Revision:
Effective or useless?

THE

Cancel culture:
Good or bad?

RETURN

of your favourite
newsletter

September 2022





BEST OF THE BETHS

Contents Page

- 1). Managing Time and Stress by Ronnie 10H
- 2). Diversity and Community by Mustafa 10H
- 3). Revision Methods by Damilola 7H
- 4). Roger Federer Retires by Riley 10W
- 5). Interview with Ms Stevens: New Head of Year 7 by Samir 10C
- 6). Extra Curricular Activities at Beths by Adriel 10W
- 7). 'The Fault In Our Stars' Review by Edwin 10C
- 8). Revising Effectively as a GCSE Student by Damilola 10H
- 9). 'See How they Run' Review by Ewan 10B
- 10). My Trip to Halifax, Canada by Nathaniel 10A
- 11). Global News by Erim 11C
- 12). Is cancel culture progressive or regressive? by Levi 11B
- 13). Beths Football Teacher Squad by George 11E
- 14). Ethan Nwaneri, 18th September 2022 by David O 11C
- 15). World Class Rugby: 2022 Bledisloe Cup by Aidan 10W
- 16). Conflict in Ukraine: September Offensive by Victor 10H
- 17). Man City Stadium Tour by 10A
- 18). Year 10 Beths vs Colfes Rugby Match by Zedaine 10W

Edited and designed by Levi 11B

Managing Time and Stress

by Ronnie 10H

Moving into a KS4 environment within the school can be quite a challenge for some – it is a drastic change from the Year 9 education atmosphere and, if not properly managed, could take quite a big toll on your well-being and overall mental health.

Speaking from personal experience so far in this school year, it has been noticeable that much more is expected of Y10 students now; at times, it feels like we've been lumbered with textbooks, topics, tests, so on and so forth. In light of this, I felt as though it would be helpful to dispense some tips (and tricks) to assist you in managing your time efficiently. Even if you are not in Y10, these pointers are beneficial across all school years.

- Contrary to popular opinion, I believe you *don't* need a time schedule. Having a fixed timetable (outside of school), specific to individual subjects, is, in my opinion, not healthy. I strongly recommend revising subjects when you feel weak in them, or if you didn't fully understand the last lesson you had in said subject matter. Revising a certain topic you are confident in because you are following a strict time regime when you could (on the other hand) be focusing on a subject you are significantly weaker in, is a bad use of your time.
- Know your limits. Yes, I know, school is *all about* pushing boundaries to become the best version of yourself – however, mental health comes first. If you feel tired, exhausted, or genuinely just drained; put the pen down. Put the textbook down. Take a break. Remember: YOU come first. Revis and study when you feel up to it.

A graphic featuring two stylized clock faces. The left clock is black with white tick marks and hands. The right clock is white with black tick marks and hands. Behind the clocks is a bright orange starburst shape. The entire graphic is set against a pink background.

Managing Time and Stress

- One of the most important tips, and one that I find is the most stressed yet least listened to, is to *have a healthy sleep schedule*. Although it can be tempting to stay up until early hours bingeing Netflix or playing your favourite games, you have to go to sleep earlier. Sleep is what gives us energy for the next day and what allows us to feel refreshed and ready for any challenges in the morning. Without the necessary amount of sleep, you will obviously feel tired, and therefore, not be willing to fully listen when in lesson.

Remember, personalise these tips - ensure you fit them into your specific situations. Feel free to think about some tips yourself, and be sure to note them down; they will help you in the future.



What really is “being diverse”, and what is community?

Google defines diversity as ‘the practise or quality of including or involving people from a range of different social and ethnic backgrounds; of different genders; sexual orientations, etc’. There is no universal definition of diversity because it varies from person to person; however, cultural diversity, diversity within sexes and sexualities, and cognitive diversity are some of the most important types for a society. Moreover, community is the idea of coming together and having others to rely on and learn from, whether those people are friends, teachers, or family. These two factors play a vital role in our ability to function both later in life and as an institution.

Tolerance vs. Acceptance

While tolerance and acceptance are used synonymously in speech, they are different. Beths should strive for acceptance rather than tolerance, accepting rather than tolerating something; welcoming people rather than simply allowing them to exist. Tolerating the prevalence of LGBTQ+ is a step forward from discrimination, but acceptance is the total form of tolerance. Members of this community should feel free enough to express themselves without consequence. This would also mean that people would no longer be hetero-normalised, which would unarguably be a

good thing.

What is Beths doing to help increase diversity and community?

Heather Saxton, the Head Girl in Charge of Girls Club; Mr. Stein, the Head of the KS3 LGBTQ+ Society; and Ms. Harris, the Head of the KS4 & 5 LGBTQ+ Society, have recently provided feedback. One thing I noticed from all their thoughts was the key principle of being educated. Schools should be implementing a wide range of topics, which would help eliminate any kind of prejudice based on something being "weird". Heather Saxton told me that there have been incidents where 'quite a few girls [came] to us with concerns about staff or students that have been sexist or disrespectful.'She also said that while they were 'handled adequately,' on occasion there hadn't been much action.

Ms. Harris joined the school in 2021 and instantly wanted to make a change for the better. Seeing that there was only 1 PSHCE lesson per year about LGBTQ+, she decided to raise awareness and provide a "safe and fun space at school", something she would have liked when she was in secondary. Mr. Stein also stated that Beths should 'build on what we have been providing' so to raise awareness of LGBTQ+ issues in our community. Sadly, people who come out at school still face lots of prejudice - Ms. Harris and Mr. Stein are both working towards a goal where LGBTQ+ is "usualised."

Why is it important?

One person can't be diverse per se, but that person could have experiences with a diverse group of people with varying lives. Having a community, encourages understanding and acceptance. People are special. No one person is the same as someone else. So why should you try and fit in? Standing out from the crowd promotes the growth of groups and allows people to understand things that they wouldn't have known about before.

If you meet someone who is the total opposite of you tomorrow, you might not know how to react as you were getting to know them, but if you were understanding and tolerant of people, you'd be acclimated to these variances that make a person distinct.

Revision Methods

by Damilola 7H



With the pressure of upcoming exams, including GCSEs and A-Levels, students can get extremely stressed over revising effectively and with speed. Luckily, there are loads of ways of getting your head around this, so that you have one less thing to worry about.

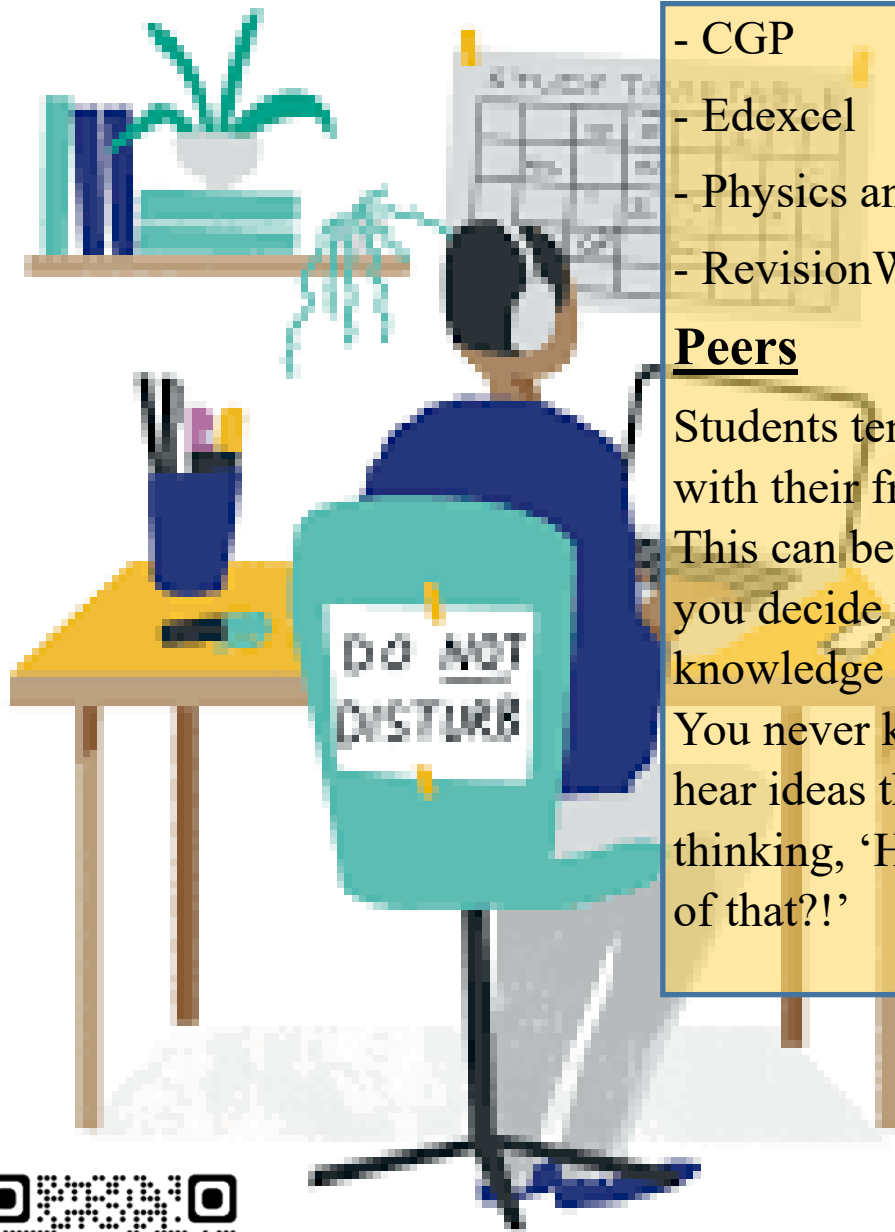
Using Past Papers

Sometimes, it's better to know what to expect before you take a test. One of the best ways to do this is to do this is to retrieve an older edition of the examination that you're going to undergo and use it like a mock test. Earlier test papers can be accessed by scanning the attached QR code .

Revision Books

Although many students already have a few, it still is worth considering buying new study books, as these are all made by experts in education and teachers themselves. These should regularly be upgraded (if affordable) to support the current national curriculum and the student's level of knowledge; these can change very often. Specifically professional brands include:

Revision Methods



- CGP
- Edexcel
- Physics and Maths Tutor
- RevisionWorld

Peers

Students tend to be really comfortable with their friends, and more open too. This can be used to your advantage if you decide to check your work and knowledge with your fellow students. You never know, sometimes you might hear ideas that will make you end up thinking, 'How on Earth did I not think of that?!'



Roger Federer Retires

by Riley 10W



Tennis legend Roger Federer retired last Saturday, after his final match in the Laver Cup. He partnered Rafael Nadal, his biggest rival over the last 20 years, in the doubles match for team Europe. Federer and Nadal played team World's Frances Tiafoe and Jack Sock in a close match which went team World's way, ending 4-6, 7-6 (7-2) 11-9. The European pair had a match point at 9-8 in the deciding set but could not convert it as Federer's final match ended with a loss. Team Europe were cheered on by a great crowd at the O2 arena in London, and the atmosphere was celebratory on an emotional night. Both Federer and Nadal cried as they sat together after the match had ended; it was clear how impactful their friendly rivalry had been on them and their careers.

The 41 year old Swiss retires after winning 20 Grand Slam singles titles in an illustrious career, spanning 25 years. He is famous for his serene, relaxed playstyle and making difficult shots look very simple. He has the most Wimbledon single titles of any man in the open era, making him one of the most accomplished grass court players in history. His career also came at a time where he had other truly great players to compete with in Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic. His matches against these players and others have transfixed tennis fans for many years, as the standard of play amongst the top players has soared to incredible heights. Federer's retirement is certainly the end of a remarkable era and his effect on the game cannot be understated. After an emotional end to a great career this month, the tennis world is left grateful to one of the greatest players of all time.

Interview with Ms Stevens New Head of Year 7 (and Director of Best of the Beths) by Samir 10C

Ms Stevens, the new Head of Year 7, sat down with me this week to we talk about all things Beths including: her roles at school past and present, her vision as Head of Year 7, and the importance of putting yourself out there.

1). How are you feeling about becoming a Head of Year?

It's a very new experience for me, taking over a whole year group. However, prior to taking over Yr7, I was the Assistant Head of Year for Yr11 for two years running. So, I am very familiar with students on a pastoral level and I absolutely love being a form tutor. But, I suppose, the biggest learning curve for me about the new role is that you are not just there for 32 students every morning, you are there for 192 students as well as managing a team of tutors and getting everyone on board with your vision for the year group.

2). What is your main vision for your year group as their Head of Year?

My main vision as a Head of Year is to just have a year group that really enjoys and loves being at school, that just sees school as a really safe and welcoming community, which embodies all of our school values. Something that I'm working very hard on and very closely with is the Beths Scholar Initiative on making sure that academic praise is being acknowledged at a student level, tutor level and then at a school wide level; so that we can really appreciate the hard work that our students do.

Interview with Ms Stevens

New Head of Year 7

(and Director of Best of the Beths)

3). How did past roles within the school prepare you to become a Head of Year?

It helped prepare me in the way of looking at a year group in a different way outside of the classroom and outside of being a tutor. I have previously been working closely with the Junior Prefect role, that the current Year 10 will be coming towards in the near future, to ensure that is really valuable and respected for the students, giving them more responsibility. In more general terms, what was very important to me was getting my presence known within the year group and making sure that students know who I am.



Extracurricular Activities at Beths

by Adriel 10W

Now that everyone has gotten into the swing of school, I'm sure that most of us are itching to see what's on offer at Beths this year, and I'm glad to say that there is a **lot** to choose from ,for all year groups.

Here are some words from a club leader herself- Ms Ewing:

"There are so many exciting opportunities for Beths students this term! In KS3 we have the brand new humanities club, which will be exploring the links between geography, history and RE, alongside Collegium Antiquum, studying Attic/Koine Greek language. KS4 students will now be able to join debate club, psychology club and philosophy club to get a taste of KS5 life! LGBTQ+ society is running across all key stages and a great safe space for LGBTQ+ students and allies. There are also a huge range of music and sports opportunities, as well as a variety of games clubs running (such as Chess and D&D). There are too many to mention them all, so check out the timetables on the website and sign up using the QR code!"

Here is a link to all the activities on offer at Beths this year:

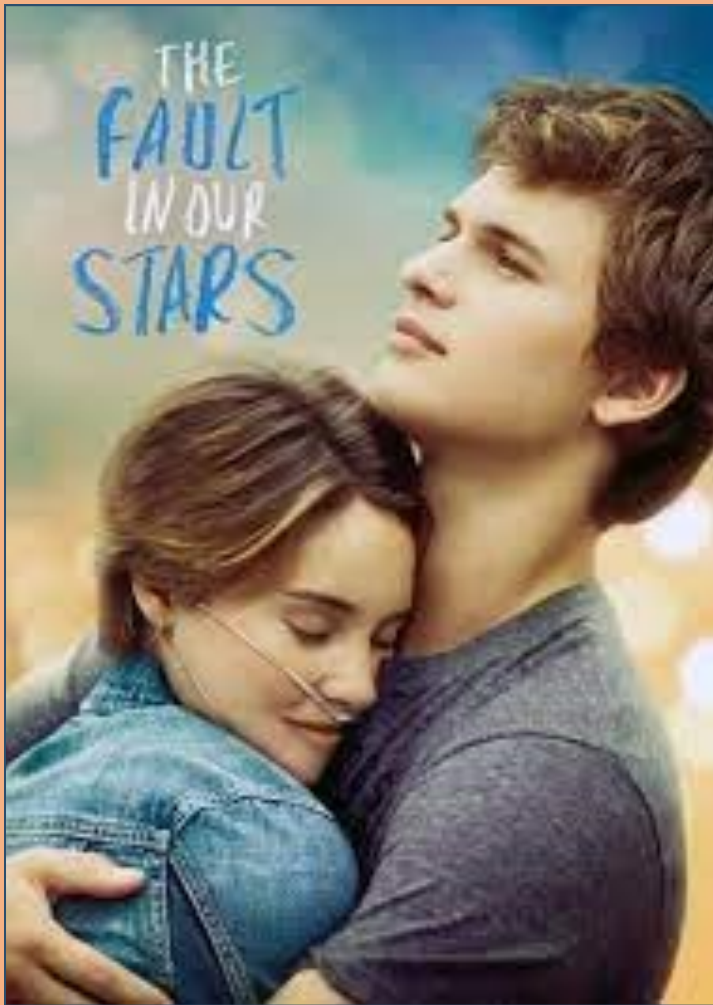
<https://www.beths.bexley.sch.uk/page/?title=Extra+Curricular+Activities&pid=50>

I cannot stress enough how important it is to take part in some of these activities. Socialising with others and gaining new friends is an important part of school, and more importantly, part of mental health. So come on, try some out, and you just might find something fun that you never thought you would.

The Fault In Our Stars

Review

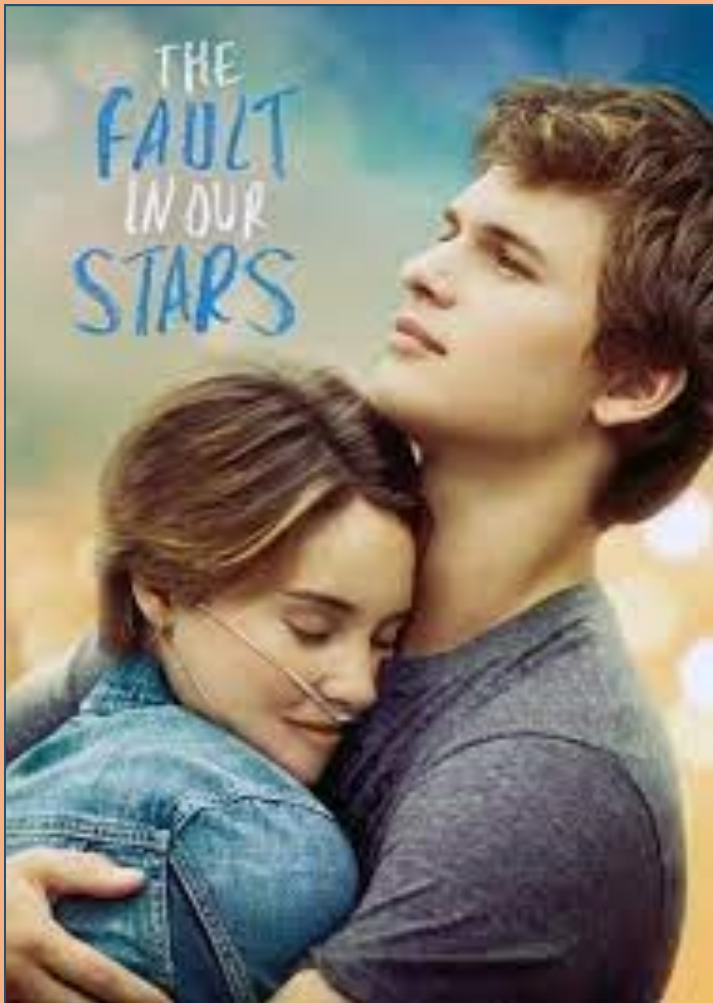
by Edwin 10C



Heartfelt is the first word that comes to mind when I think of John Green's masterpiece, *The Fault in Our Stars*. The story follows its protagonist, Hazel Green Lancaster, 16 years old, as she navigates a cancerous life and falls in love at the same time. She meets Augustus 'Gus' Waters, a visitor at her support group, and the rest of the story unravels from there. Without spoiling too much, I would have to say that one of my favourite things about this book is its cast of characters. Aside from the pair, there is Isaac, another member of support group, and Hazel's mother, who is essential to one of the themes I found in this novel. All 4 of these characters are unique, with different trials, tribulations and triumphs that complement the overall tale very well. A major theme is those who are left behind. *An Imperial Affliction*, Hazel's favourite book, brings this thought into a violent reality. It's main character, Anna, departs after a battle with cancer, and the biggest thing on Hazel's mind is 'What happens to Anna's mother.'.

I would say that this book was absolutely fantastic. It made me laugh, worry, and think differently in ways that I'm grateful for, and fellow readers would agree.

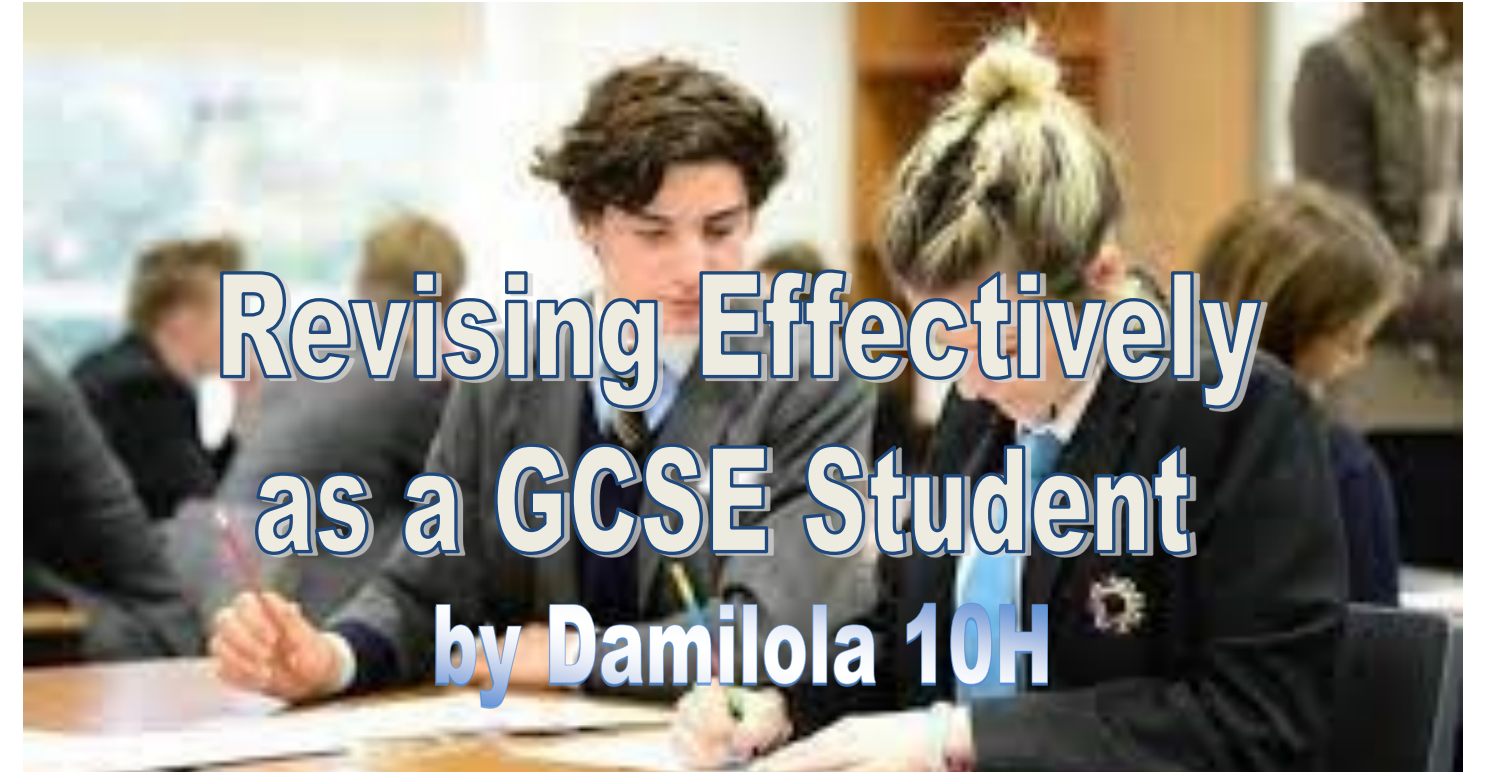
The Fault In Our Stars Review



A student in Year 10 said that 'The Fault in Our Stars was an incredibly inspiring story. It can teach anyone and everyone about how love and relationships can withstand anything.', while a reader from out of school mentioned that 'John Green understands teenagers and expresses them well in his works.'.

The only way I could possibly fault the book, when discussing how it develops its minor characters. The cast of characters isn't too large, with around 16 noteworthy characters in this 313-page book, but occasionally some characters feel like they are only there to develop the main cast. The strongest case for this argument is Kaitlyn. Early into the book, Kaitlyn is introduced as Hazel's only friend pre-cancer. Hazel worries that things will change drastically between them, but Kaitlyn proves to be understanding and helpful to Hazel in more ways than one, while still being amusing. It would have been great to see her appear a few more times than she did, and for her to develop into less of a stereotypical popular girl, and just an everyday human with flaws, but regardless, her appearances were strong and great for driving the plot forwards.

Therefore, I would recommend this to people 13 and up, for its undeniable ability to make your heart race with excitement and fear, in even the most mellow of times.



Revising Effectively as a GCSE Student by Damilola 10H

Time Management

Time management is key as a GCSE student, given that you are assessed on 10/11 subjects and you must have the ability to be able to recall any information across those subjects during your exam. To retain this knowledge, you will need a lot of time, hard work and dedication. That's where time management comes into play. To manage your time well, I would recommend dedicating more time to your weaker subjects. After that, start working on a timetable. To make a timetable, you firstly want to block out the times that you aren't free. This might mean you have to sacrifice your lunch times or after-school free time for revision. Next, you should list your subjects down on a sheet of paper and colour code it. After having done that, you need to decide whether a digital timetable maker such as <https://timetablemaker.com> would be better for you or just writing it on paper. I would recommend blocking your time into 30-minute chunks from the time you get home to the time you sleep, as this timetable is exclusive to after school. For me it would be from 5:30-6, all the way to 9-9:30. Now you've got to make time for your breaks and sessions. In this 4 hour block I would usually have 2 30-minute breaks and 3 1hr sessions. Now that you've chunked your time, all that's left is to plug in your subjects accordingly. I would try to space out my revision for a certain subject 3 days before/after the lesson to apply the learning method spaced repetition which we will discuss later. One main thing is that your timetable must be one you can dedicate to and is manageable. Time management is one of the fundamentals to achieving the top grades.

A photograph of several students in a classroom setting, wearing school uniforms and sitting at desks, focused on their work. The image is slightly blurred, emphasizing the text overlay.

Revising Effectively as a GCSE Student

Active Recall

Active recall is a study method that helps you to master the skill of retrieving information you have learnt. This goes against the old ways of teaching where we were trained to memorise and retain as much memory as we can which is highly inefficient and impractical when it comes to a real exam situation. A great way to apply the method of active recall is by using flashcards. Although many may think it's a waste of time, I have found that using Anki or Quizlet is efficient as they're accessible to use, wherever you go, whilst physical flashcards can take a lot of time to make. With flashcards, you see a term or question and you are to give the correct response to it. This helps you connect the questions to the answer and is easily applicable to exam situations. Another way you can apply active recall is by a method called blurring. As the name suggests, you "blurt" or write out all the information you know on a certain subject onto the piece of paper in bullet points or as a mind map, read a textbook or alternatively, watch a video. Then, you can add in a write the information you missed out, using a different colour. This is also great to see what areas in a subject you need more work on.

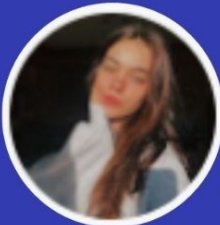
PRESENTING

THE ACADEMIC FIX

The Academic Fix

Don't Sweat Academics

@theacademicfix



HI, I'M LAURA MEDLEY
FROM YOUTUBE AND
I'M A FREELANCER.



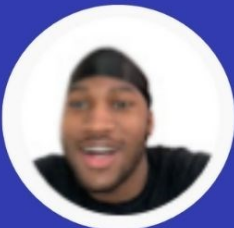
HELLO, I'M ILYA'S
CAMBRIDGE ADVICE.
I STUDY NATURAL
SCIENCES AT
CAMBRIDGE.



HI, I'M LOVE FROM
YOUTUBE. I STUDY
PPE AT OXFORD.



HI, I'M JETA FROM
YOUTUBE. I STUDY
ENGLISH, HISTORY
AND PSYCHOLOGY
AND I'M IN YEAR 12.



HELLO, I'M JADOES
FROM YOUTUBE. I
STUDY DATA SCIENCE
AT EXETER.



HI, I'M TENKYIU ON
TIKTOK. I STUDY
MATHS, FURTHER
MATHS, PHYSICS AND
CHEMISTRY AND I'M
IN YEAR 12.



HI, I'M
GCSE POTENTIAL FROM
TIKTOK. I'M IN YEAR
11.



HELLO, I'M SEAN AND
I STUDY PPE AT
OXFORD.

**FOLLOW THE LINK USING THE QR CODE,
AND WATCH THE VIDEOS TO PREPARE
YOU FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR!**



See How They Run

Review

by Ewan 10B



In conclusion, See How They Run is a movie I'd recommend if someone enjoys a classic whodunnit, but not so much a comedy or work of art. All in all, I'd give the movie a 7/10.

Cinema. Film. The Big Screen. Motion Picture. All these words conjure to mind finding your place within rows of seats, popcorn in hand, as the lights darken, and the projector whirrs to life. In See How They Run, this idea is brought to the forefront, as we are whisked back to the 1950s, and deposited neatly within the West End. Here, Agatha Christie's (of Murder on the Orient Express fame) play, The Mousetrap is celebrating its 100th performance. There, the American film director Leo Köpernick tries to secure the chance to adapt the film to the silver screen. However not soon after, his body is found on stage. Soon, all the talent there, such as Richard Attenborough (Of relation to David Attenborough, and played by Harris Dickinson) are under investigation by the Inspector Stoppard (Sam Rockwell) and the inexperienced (but enthusiastic) Constable Stalker (Saoirse Ronan).

Personally, I would say this movie lives or dies ,based on the chemistry between Rockwell and Ronan, with their relationship being executed well to a degree. Another major element to the movie is it's (ir)reverence towards the tropes of whodunnits, with characters explicitly mocking these cliches, and then doing that very same thing. It's funny the first one or two times, and then it gets old. I can recall laughing maybe 3 times during the run-time of this whole movie. However, the story is fascinating, and the cinematography is certainly inspired.



My Trip to Halifax, Canada

by Nathaniel 10A

With COVID-19 restrictions previously preventing international travel, it was so relieving to finally be able to travel care-free again. Once the summer term ended on the 21st of July, all I could think about was the long-awaited family trip to Canada that COVID-19 had delayed.

On the 31st of July, my family and I woke up incredibly early, to embark on our transatlantic journey from London Gatwick Airport, England to Halifax-Stanfield Airport, Canada. We arrived at Gatwick Airport at roughly 6:45 AM and were able to check in half an hour later. Then, we made our way through family security. As we travelled as a family, we were able to go through family security, which was much quicker than usual airport security! Once through, we looked at the departure board to check when our gate would be announced and walked around duty-free. They had some aromatic perfumes but unfortunately, I was unable to purchase any of them. Instead, we made our way to Nando's for a Nando's breakfast – one of the perks of travelling from Gatwick Airport! With luck our gate was announced shortly after our meal, and we made our way there. We flew with WestJet Airlines and our 6-hour flight departed just after 10 AM. We landed, after a long and tiring flight in Halifax at roughly 1 PM.

Whilst in Canada, my family and I visited Atlantic Splash Adventure, a water park located in central Halifax. It was an extremely fun experience, and we all had a lot of fun. My personal favourite attraction was the 'Bumper Boats', which follow the same concept of bumper cars but in the shape of a boat. We also managed to try many different Canadian/American fast-food chains, such as Wendy's,



My Trip to Halifax, Canada

Tim Hortons' and Boston Pizza. In my opinion, these are much better than British fast-food chains, due to the Canadian Serving sizes being much larger than the British Serving Sizes. On our final day, we had a tour of Halifax City Centre on a Harbour Hopper, which included a water-boat experience at the end. Unfortunately, we got stuck at sea due to our 'water-boat' running out of fuel. We also had to be evacuated by lifeguards!

My trip to Canada was an amazing experience, from which I was able to be exposed to the many cultural differences and enjoy them from a fresh perspective. I really hope to visit again and would certainly recommend visiting if you can!

A man with a beard and sunglasses is speaking into a microphone. He is wearing a black t-shirt. In the background, there are shelves with various items, including a bag of 'FULL SEAM' and some books. The text 'Global News by Erim 11C' is overlaid on the image.

Global News by Erim 11C

Andrew Tate

To many of us, the name Andrew Tate is a very familiar one, and has swept the internet by storm. Mostly, Emory Andrew Tate has been prevalent on many platforms, including YouTube, TikTok, and more for a couple of months. He has been made famous for his comments mainly towards women, men, the hardships of life, and general wisdom and advice for the tough road ahead for many of us. His life experience and knowledge has struck a sense of reality in many of us, and many have taken much inspiration from both Andrew and his brother Tristan. Initially, they both gained recognition for their educative content on finance, and Andrew's fighting career in kickboxing. Only recently has he been banned by many social media companies, and many who have interviewed and spoken with Andrew Tate found that his supposedly controversial ideas that were poisonous to our morals. A lot of these people took notice of his courage and confidence to do this and were inspired to do the same. These adults have been stating that people should be listening to him and taking him seriously, because a lot of the stuff he talks about was very important to be realised in young men today. A lot of people on these social media platforms have also been stating how Andrew has filled the void of knowledge, strength and guidance many of the young men need. They also stated that the strong masculinity he brings are needed by teenagers to start questioning their attitudes to life, confidence and road to success. On one end of the spectrum, he is seen as a source of the strength that a lot of teenage boys are lacking, however, his comments come with criticism. Most popularly, his divisive comments on women and their ability to do certain things. He has



Global News

previously stated that women are less emotionally stable and calm in situations of dire needs. He has also made specific comments on how, in marriage, women belong to a man, and most of this he says, come from primitive and instinctual version of society. So, what do you think of this man, is he good for social media?

Iranian protests

So, what's going on in Iran? Recently, the sad passing of a beloved woman who has inspired so many to take action has died. This has created a nation-wide protest, about women's rights in Iran. The 22-year-old died within custody of the country's "morality police", because she didn't wear her hijab in a more covering way. The "morality police" enforce and "religious dress code", meaning women must cover up when in public. It has been reported by the UN rights office that the women, who have violated this dress code in recent years, have been slapped, shoved into police vehicles, and even beaten. The pressure these women face by restricting their freedom of choice in clothing is arguably detrimental to Iran. The younger generation, who want to wear clothing more loosely have to try to avoid the authorities and not experience horrifying treatment against this. When they sent Mahsa Amini to a re-education centre for "guidance" to dress properly, she died only three days later. Her death has shaken the nation into a protest that the president, has called an unnecessary "chaos". Nonetheless, she has become a beacon of women's rights in Iran and an example of their oppression. Many have called for the abolition of these policies and the morality police. Some women are so emotionally affected by this death that they have taken off their hijabs and burned them. Statistically, it has been reported that both police and demonstrators have been killed (over 30). It is estimated that somewhere around 1,400 protesters have been arrested.

Is CANCEL CULTURE

progressive or regressive?

by Levi 11B



Last week, all year 11s were given the task of completing their GCSE Spoken Language endorsement, where they had to give a speech on something they would like to change in modern society. My speech was on cancel culture and was awarded a distinction.

My main argument is that cancel culture is more regressive than progressive. To improve as a society and tackle our issues, we must encourage civil conversation and debate, protecting everyone's right to have an opinion. If we don't do this and we employ cancel culture (and at some point censorship), all we do is strengthen them, never getting to the crux of the issue.

"What is cancel culture?", you may ask. According to Wikipedia, **Cancel culture** refers to a form of ostracism in which someone is thrust out of social or professional circles – whether it be online, on social media, or in person.

Here, I'm going to use the deplorable example of Shane Dawson. Shane Dawson is an American content creator, who is most known for his popular conspiracy videos on YouTube. A few years ago, lots of his old content resurfaced, where he portrayed blackface and repeatedly said the N-word. Furthermore, there were clips with him making paedophilia + animal abuse jokes.

In this case, Shane Dawson's being cancelled and him losing his platform is arguably justifiable. People on social media should be concerned with who they give power to and the influence that these influencers have.

This is progressive, right?

However, in recent years, cancel culture has grown significantly on the internet, and I argue, past what is necessary. I remember 2 years ago, when COVID-19 shocked the Earth, shops shut down, schools closed, businesses collapsed, millions of people

Is CANCEL CULTURE

progressive or regressive?



unfortunately died, but social media came alive.

Social media can be beneficial for many things but at the same time, idle hands are the devil's playground. It's a place where faceless people can say the worst things, without accountability. People, who have nothing better to do, send death threats, scathing insults, perform defamation of character, under the guise of social reform. I remember during lockdown, I would watch YouTube videos about cancelled people, as a means of entertainment, trivialising the serious issues at hand.

In doing research for this speech, I decided to watch a documentary about the most followed family on TikTok. In watching this, I changed my mind about cancel culture. When talking to my friends about this, many of them say that cancel culture is the price of fame and that they should simply deal with it. But I disagree. Cancel culture was something that gravely impacted the whole family. The show goes into such detail with how these creators are dehumanised, these constant messages claw at their sanity, attacking their appearance, their past, their relationships, their privacy. When users find something cancel-worthy for this family, the comments get worse and worse, sending them death threats and encouraging people to show up at the family's house. Attempts to apologise and improve themselves are subject to more criticism and mocking. It was shocking to see what this did to their mental health.

I think it's easy to disregard the feelings of people on social media, especially if you can't relate to them (or don't know them) but I think it's helpful to have empathy, at the same time. As a lack of this only fuels this inhumane ostracism.

A few weeks ago, a man named Andrew Tate was banned from all social media platforms, for a series of misogynistic and sexist views that he'd expressed on his accounts. Before this occurred, he had risen to fame on the internet, with his self-help videos racking up to billions of views.

Is CANCEL CULTURE

progressive or regressive?



On the one hand, it is true that many of his points were disgraceful and there's an immense danger that his views could influence the impressionable youth. However, at the same time, there's a huge number of people who benefited somewhat from Tate's videos. One of the core reasons being that he encouraged his viewers not to care about cancel culture and social isolation but rather to get up, to be confident and become the bold person they've always wanted to be.

Whether you agree or disagree with Andrew Tate, or any of these cancelled people, there's no denying that when cancel culture becomes extreme and you can ban a person from society for their opinions, an unsettling message can be perceived. As the day goes on, we're turning into a society, who slowly removes freedom of speech and forgiveness. As the day goes on, we become a fragile society, who cannot hear or respectfully respond to other ideas, who remain ignorant and impudent to other people's rationales, we become a merciless society who fears difference and imperfection. I would argue that this is regressive.

In the end, I propose stimulating conversation and debate, where we can address these issues head on. We must not encourage people to fear having their own opinion but rather motivate people to build one and debate it with others. That's how we change society.

Please don't cancel me. Thank you.

Beths Football Teacher Squad

by George 11E

BETHS FC

Formation : 4 . 3 . 3

Manager : TBA

Sub 1 : TBA

Sub 2 : TBA

Sub 3 : TBA

Sub 4 : TBA

Sub 5 : TBA



Beths is happy to announce that the school teaching staff will be participating in a football match at a fundraiser for 'Young Minds' charity. Our opposition has not yet been confirmed. Every month leading up to the match (date TBC), the 'Best of the Beths' newsletter will be announcing two new members to the squad. This month we see Mr Knott, a masterclass midfielder who already has experience with this. Our other new addition is Mr Iqbal, a new maths teacher, who recently joined us. He seems very keen to play between the sticks, so we are excited to see what he can bring to this team.



On Sunday 18th September 2022, Premier League history was made. The youngest ever player play to in a Premier league match starred in Arsenal's 3-0 win over Brentford. A record previously held by Liverpool first team regular and former Fulham player, Harvey Elliott, when he debuted for Fulham against Wolves in a 1-0 loss at just 16 years and 1 month. Ethan Nwaneri broke the record for youngest PL player at just 15 years and 181 days. Not even having sat his GCSES yet, Nwaneri is much younger than many of the Year 11s at Beths! Other records he has broken include:

Arsenal's youngest player in all competitions (a record previously held by Cesc Fabregas when he was 16 and 177 days. A whole year older than Nwaneri)

Youngest player in all topflight football in England (a record previously held by Sunderland's Derek Foster whom Ethan beat by only 72 hours)

By substituting and playing an academy player, Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta has reiterated his faith in the youth of the club. This is sure to have a knock-on effect on the different age groups and squads throughout the team. When asked why he played the teenager, he had this to say:

"It was a feeling that I had yesterday, I don't know why. The first day I met him I looked him in his eyes, and everyone was telling me about him, Per [Mertesacker] (Former Arsenal player and academy coach) was telling me about him, and that's it. It's one step, one experience, so enjoy it and congratulations! It's just one step and all the steps in your career are not forward and you have to know that. You can go forward then backwards and then forwards. You fall, you go back - that's, unfortunately, this industry and the football career of any player."

Per Mertesacker commented on this topic. "Mikel gave everyone a powerful message," he said. "I have to say how much it trickled down. I've seen videos of the under-9, under-10 squads cheering Ethan on at Hale End when he came on. Players that would start the same journey as he did, in the

grassroots academy, were cheering him on. So, suddenly, he has been escalated to be a role model and a positive influence for young players. It's just brilliant to see, that's what we are proud of, that we can show progression, that we can show pathways. It was a very proud moment, first for himself and his family. It's a reflection, as well, of what this club is about, what the academy is about. A lot of youngsters entering the academy have the dream of playing for Arsenal Football Club and he made that dream come true. It was a proud moment for us as an academy."

Jack Wilshire, a former Arsenal player and now the U18 head coach also had comments. "We need to give a lot of credit to everyone at Hale End [Arsenals Academy]," Jack said. "Everyone that's helped him and supported him over the years. There are some people who are proud, and I'm one of them, but I've been around for a couple of months, and a little bit last season. So, let's thank everyone down at Hale End for their support and their hard work. Now he's part of my team, one of my players, so I will give him all the support and guidance he needs."

Jack also took a similar path to Ethan Nwaneri, so he can help guide him in his football career and through the media spotlight. "One thing that I learnt pretty quickly - maybe not quickly enough but looking back now I realise it - is there are a lot of people at the club who have his best interests at heart," Jack added. "He must listen to them. He must somehow block out the noise. I know he has a good family around him, which was important in my case as well. Keep his feet on the ground. But he is the type of kid that will do that. He's a really driven boy. I think that [giving young players a chance] is part of the tradition of Arsenal Football Club. It was a big day for the whole club and hopefully we can use it as inspiration for the boys at Hale End, but also for the boys here who get to experience training every day and trying to push with our first team."

I spoke to one of my classmates, David A and he had this to say about the debut:

"As an England fan I am glad to see the youth of English academies thriving. As a Manchester United fan, not so much. Regardless I am happy for Ethan as it is the position most 15-year-old boys want to see themselves in. I want to see what he can achieve and what other English players can do as well"

To conclude, this story should be inspiring to many students around his age group to thrive not only in football, but in other activities and academics. Thank you for taking the time to read this article.



With Beths' rugby starting up again, it's nice and fitting that two of the greatest rugby nations of all time proved to the world their dominance and why so many people love the sport.

The All Blacks (New Zealand's rugby team) and the Wallabies (Australia) have a timeless rivalry in rugby, in which they compete in a famous tournament called the Bledisloe cup. Despite Australia having nearly 5x New Zealand's population, the 'All Blacks' have dominated the competition, winning an incredible 49 times to 12. There's no doubt that New Zealand were the favourites going into the competition and their performance was nothing short of incredible but could they get the big number 50?

Game 1: Incredible Scenes In Melbourne

The Bledisloe cup is a three part competition with matches in both Australia and New Zealand with the first match in Melbourne Australia. The anticipation of this match in both countries was incredible, with a full venue filling the docklands stadium. Even still, no one could have anticipated the match that was to come, yellow cards, incredible kicks and of course, a very controversial winning try.

The match started off very tame with both teams showing why they are world class. After exchanging a try and field goal, the score was tied. At minute 30 however, New Zealand were struggling with a man down due to a yellow card but they somehow managed to hang on until the Wallabies made a mistake that could have cost them.

After a brilliant push from the New Zealand forwards they looked unstoppable until Australia's right wing decided to charge a New Zealand forward in an unsportsmanlike fashion. This led to a yellow card and a penalty for New Zealand at the edge of half time in a very attractive position but could they capitalise on this mistake? It seemed so! However, the try is revoked due to a knock on. Both teams return to the changing rooms at half time with the Wallabies two men down - a 10-10 tie game.



After a dramatic end of the first half, the 'All Blacks' were ready to break the 13 man Australia side down and with a quick act of brilliance, the 'All Blacks' were in the lead after less than a minute! All Australia could do was pray for a miracle, until their players returned and were given a field goal for their efforts ending the starting 5 minutes of the second half at 17-13 to the 'All Blacks'.

After the initial try, the All Blacks looked unbeatable. They managed to pull away with another 2 tries through brilliant plays from the All Blacks' wingers. The match looked over until something sparked in the Australia side. Something that can only be described as magical. Through no fault of New Zealand, The Wallabies made an amazing comeback after a brilliant 2 tries from Australian full-back Andrew Kelleway and another from winger Pete Samu. The match was tied, 34-34 with only 5 minutes left to play.

After a tense push from Australia, they managed to put themselves ahead. The match looked over. 37-34, Australia with possession with less than 2 minutes to play but of course, the worst happened. The All Blacks were awarded an extremely controversial penalty after Australia took too long to kick! In a position to score, the all blacks take their gift from God and score, ending the match 37-39 to New Zealand. What a game!

Game 2: A New Zealand Blow Out

After a crushing defeat in Melbourne, the Wallabies looked unprepared and sloppy for match 2. On top of having no motivation to win the rugby championships and New Zealand being the leaders, it was over quickly with New Zealand winning a convincing 40-14

Conflict in Ukraine: September Offensive by Victor 10H

“The world is a dangerous place to live; not because of the people who are evil, but because of the people who don't do anything about it.”

-Albert Einstein.

2022 has been a good year for some, a bad year for others, and a worse year for the people of Ukraine. The war in Ukraine, which started on the 24th of February of this year, has become a bogged-down war of attrition for both sides, with Russian advances in the South and East. However, September is the month where the fortunes are reversed for Ukraine.

At the time of writing, the Ukrainian military has covered some 70 kilometres of the Kharkiv Region, in the north-east of Ukraine, in less than a week. This resulted in a collapse of a part of Russia's front-line, with large numbers of Russian troops forced to retreat. A military source in Ukraine stated that the offensive was ‘a thoroughly planned operation’ and that ‘everything was running to schedule.’ Another push put the strategically important town of Izyum, in the same region of Ukraine, in Ukrainian hands once again.

There has also been an announcement by Russian President Putin that a ‘partial mobilisation’ is to start on Wednesday 21st. An estimated 300,000 new soldiers are said to be recruited, according to military officials in Russia, although Putin himself hasn't confirmed the number. The move, a risky and deeply unpopular step in Russia, is said to only conscript people with ‘specialist skills needed in the Ukraine conflict,’ as Vladimir Putin stressed in his statement. This means recruiting past soldiers with military training, and countless reserve officers, some aged over 60 years old. This coincided with a huge spike in web searches inside Russia for how to escape from the increasingly isolated country.

Conflict in Ukraine: September Offensive

“The first such call-up since the Second World War, the extra manpower will provide fresh battalions for defending a 1000km frontline and might turn the war in Russia’s favour once again. However, many in the West have interpreted the announcement as a humiliation for Russia, calling it the ‘beginning of the end.’ It is worth noting that Russia, in theory, could mobilise up to 25 million people, so conscripting 300,000 would only amount to 1.2% of that theoretical amount. Yet that number resembling the communist colossus of the Soviet era is not being currently considered by Putin and top officials. They have also explicitly said that ‘conscripts would not be sent to fight in Ukraine,’ as said by both President Putin and Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu. Although Russia has the numerically superior military, and will continue to strengthen its raw numbers, Ukraine has been able to fight this war by its knowledge of the battlefield, superior tactics, high morale, not to mention possessing western weapons from almost \$100 Billion being pumped into the country in Western aid. This equates to a stalemate for a long and gruelling war, for which the Kremlin says it is prepared.

Efforts worldwide are being continued to secure deals between the two warring states; countries such as Turkey have made huge advancements in trade agreements, allowing grains such as wheat to exit Ukraine. Countries such as Somalia and Benin, each of whose grain comes from almost 100% Russo-Ukrainian wheat exports, will suffer greatly from sky-high grain prices if the two governments break each other’s trade deals. Various countries including Mexico and India have offered up fresh ideas as mediators to make sure the war doesn’t affect even more people.



Man City Stadium Tour

Calling all Man City fans! Do you want to know where I went this summer? I visited the man city stadium and had a tour as well! The stadium is bigger than you expect. Let me tell you about it.

First, we travelled across the stadium to the shop where they sell branded football shirts etc. and after that we then progressed into the stadium, we went to sit on the stands while the tour guide was telling us about the place. We then walked towards the pitch, and it was MASSIVE.

The grass was so perfectly cut and greener than ever! After that, we walked into their gym room, and it was absolutely spotless. They had all sorts of equipment for players

After the Gym, we entered the changing rooms and again these were very clean and had very modern features too and we got to see all of the players shirts:

Man City Stadium Tour



Beths Grammar vs Colfe's School

Year 10 Rugby Match



VS



by Zedaine 10W

Rugby, there is no sport like it. It has a rawness no other sport can match. In its essence, it's primal. Yet so many gravitate towards it, even if it leaves them with gashes, bruises or broken bones. This sport would pit Beths and Colfe's against each other.

This was not these Beths' boys first encounter with Colfe's; they had suffered a humiliating defeat in Year 9. None could fault them though, Colfe's valued rugby more than them, their team was an actual team instead of a rag tag group, with only one or two who knew how to play the sport. Sadly, Beths' team was only a stepping stone with which to step over, to succeed in the league. Despite this, the team had won their fair share of games and had developed significantly since their first encounter with Colfe's. The question on everyone's mind was - would it be enough?

A rematch - what a way to start the rugby season! The match was held at the Colfe's sport ground. As the match started, most, including the Beths boys thought they would see a repeat of the last Colfe's match. It only took ten minutes for Colfe's to score two tries. Whereas most would see this as an imminent loss with a strand of failures waiting to unravel, the Year 10 Beths team took it as fuel. How could they lose their first match of the season? This was a debut for many. A chance for them to show all they could give to the team, and they certainly did. A fire had ignited under the team, and the first spark of this fire was seen with their first try.

Beths would not allow their defence to be penetrated. Colfe's may have had strategy and technique, but Beths had brute force and passion. As Beths edged closer to the Colfe's try line, a ruck formed. Almost as fast as it was formed the ball was swiped by Aidan (a veteran of rugby, some may say, for his continuous service to the Beths rugby team). While he sprang to the try line the Colfe's, boys could only watch; they could not match his speed. It was now 1-2 to



VS



Colfe's and success seemed more attainable.

Colfe's tried to outmanoeuvre Beths' boys by passing the ball through the backs, but they should have known by now that their technique had become obsolete. Their attempts to pass were futile, as they were hammered down by Beths as another ruck formed, and history would repeat itself. Zedaine, another long-time player in the Beths team, got hold of the ball, something Colfe's would most surely regret. He catapulted to try line with no resistance. This was someone who could not be kept up with. Most on Colfe's team, cried to the referee, denying the legitimacy of the try. However, the referee confirmed it as valid.

The game continued at a fast pace, a pace Colfe's could not seem to manage, as they continued to be swept to their feet and fall further into their loss. Two more tries were scored by Zedaine, followed by one by Michael. As the match continued, it became clear that Beths had finally found their footing. Even newcomers had their time in the sun. The team was overflowing with joy and a thirst for the game. Aggression skyrocketed, much to the dismay of Colfe's.

Five minutes were left and Beths had garnered several tries, while Colfe's stayed at a mere two. This was their chance, they had the ball; they began to pass to the backs and then the screams suddenly penetrated the air. None can truly put their finger on what happened, maybe it was a bad tackle or just a collision. Two Colfe's students were spread out on the floor, whaling, with the ball sat between them. With the referee seeing the time and how unbalanced to score was (7-2), he had no choice but to end the match. Beths had won. None cheered as this seemed like the wrong time, but everyone on the Beths team was overjoyed on the inside.

What a way to start the season! These boys finally looked like a capable rugby team, with nationals right around the corner as well. How far will their passion bring them?



BEST OF THE BETHS

Thank you for reading the first edition of the newsletter, for this academic year.

Our team has doubled in members since last year (which is fantastic) and we're beyond excited to bring you interesting stories from a diverse range of voices. In this edition, we covered a wide range of topics from revision and essays to book reviews and match reports!

Please let us know what you enjoyed about this edition and what you would like to see next month.

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- Regards from the Newsletter team