



Beths Blog

Week ending Thursday 29 March 2018

Spring Concert – Wednesday 28 March



Jack Harms and Noah Briggs did a great job acting as comperes for the evening which blended some 'high quality links, some of which were funny, and a crucifixion of some of the names of the pieces that they were announcing'.

The evening kicked off with the Beths Big Band which set the standard for the rest of the evening. This was followed by some individual and small ensemble pieces which demonstrated the expertise of our students. It was very pleasing to have amongst us a prospective Year 12 student that had joined the Big Band and the Orchestra for the spring concert and we look forward to welcoming him in to Beths in September. The evening was concluded with the Beths Orchestra, who added the icing on the cake by presenting a high-quality professional performance and I was very proud to have experienced this and look forward

to many more evenings like this.



A big thanks to the students, the teaching staff who prepared them for the performance and, of course, the parents for their continued support. I must also say a final thank you to the PA for laying on refreshments for the evening once again.

Mr R J Blyghton
Headteacher

Haircut for Charity

Charley Smith is currently collecting for charity. Charley has long blonde hair (24 inches, in fact) and, if he raises £1,000, he has promised to cut it all off. Charley is collecting for the Sixth Form Prom and

his chosen children's charity - Little Princess Trust - who will also be receiving his hair as part of the donation. If you would like to sponsor him, please contact him care of the school.

Year 9 Language Ambassadors

Our Year 9 language ambassadors have taken part in a pioneering project of initiating contact with local community members in French, Spanish and German by writing Easter cards to members of Bexley's University of the Third Age who gather weekly to practice foreign languages. They have written on a variety of subjects, ranging from about themselves to their hobbies to Beths! They have used their best language skills and produced some great work. We can't wait to hear back from those that they have written to.



Year 9 House Debating Competition

Following a closely fought house debating competition this term in Year 9, we are pleased to be able to announce 9C as the winners! After debating a wide range of topics such as, should school uniform be abolished, and can religion explain the origins of the universe, the debating team from 9C and 9H wrestled with the deeply philosophical issue question, do good people suffer more than evil people? Following excellent speeches by Matthew Gainsford, Leandros Michaelides and Dennis Boswell, the winning team made up of Rafiad Ullah, Abdulmuiz Alabi and Sam Weller romped to victory in an excellent debate covering religion, philosophy, psychology and the nature of the human condition.

Well done to everyone who supported the various debates and for those who took part.



Appointed Governors

The Members of the Beths Academy Trust are looking to appoint some Appointed Governors at the end of this calendar year. Appointed Governors, as the name implies, are appointed on the basis of the particular skills that they bring to the Governing Body and at this time we are looking to appoint people with skills in school performance, educational law, finance or human resources. If you have any of these skills and want to make a positive impact to the learning experience of the young men and women at Beths then please contact the Head's PA, Nicola Fitzgerald, to express your interest and outline your experience. Mrs Fitzgerald will pass your information on to me.

The Governing Body determine and implement the strategic direction of the school in conjunction with the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team and are accountable to the Department for Education. You can gain some insight into what the Governing Body do from looking at the Governors area on the Beths website, but the minimum time requirement is to attend 4 full Governing Body meetings a year and 3 committee meetings. All these meetings start at 5pm and typically last for 2 hours. A timetable for all meetings is set out before the beginning of each school year.

The Beths Governing Body are committed to ensuring that all students reach their full potential and leave the school as well-rounded individuals fully equipped to undertake the challenges they will

encounter. We are also committed to self-evaluation and improvement and this year we have undertaken an extensive external review and are currently working through an action plan that resulted from this review. One of the actions is to improve our recruitment strategy for new governors and this approach to parents and carers through the school blog is a step towards this.

Please give serious consideration to this request and get in touch with Mrs Fitzgerald if you feel that you have the experience and commitment required.

Chris Kirk
Chairman of the Governing Body

Safety and Courtesy

On a more serious note, we would like to remind parents, students and staff to continue to be respectful of our neighbours and not park across their driveways. The safety of our students continues to be our utmost priority and so we also ask that, if you are dropping off or collecting your son or daughter, you abide by the road markings and refrain from parking on zig-zags or double yellow lines.

We have also received a couple of calls from members of the public about parents dropping students in the morning actually on the roundabout at the top of Bourne Road – close to Dartfordians. This is obviously extremely dangerous not just for other road users, but also for the students themselves. We would urge that parents please find a safe place to drop-off their child/children for school.

Finally, we wish you all a very relaxing Easter break and look forward to welcoming staff and students back to Beths on Monday 16 April.