



## Beths Blog

### Week ending Friday 15 June 2018

#### One Minute's Silence for the Victims and Survivors of the Grenfell Tower Fire

On Thursday 14 June, we joined the rest of the country and held a one minute's silence at midday to remember the victims and survivors of the Grenfell Tower fire.

#### MCC vs Beths 1<sup>st</sup> XI – Wednesday 13 June 2018

Wednesday 13 June saw Beths 1<sup>st</sup> XI cricket team play our annual fixture against the MCC. After losing the toss Beths took the field with trepidation as the MCC set about the bowling attack. A sharp effort was put down at point, but apart from that there was not much success for the tiring Beths bowling. An unfortunate incident saw the MCC non striking batsman hit on the head however this did not stop the relentless batting as they reached 90 before the fall of the first wicket. A decent delivery by Hart saw an even more impressive bit of glove work



by Aldred seeing an end to Ratcliff with a classy stumping. The MCC continued the misery and it wasn't until they had reached 230 when the Beths bowling got another breakthrough off the bowling of Moon. Eventually the MCC declared on 254.

Beths took to the centre knowing that nothing less than a strong batting performance would end in a crushing defeat. When Hart went cheaply after middling a great shot to deep fine leg only to be caught just before the boundary, it looked like the MCC run mountain was going to be unsurmountable.

That brought Aldred to the crease and together with Moon they both managed to steady the ship and at tea were undefeated. After seeing the score cruise past 50 and then 100, glimmers of hope began to shine. Moon passed his fifty followed shortly after by the capable Aldred. At the score of 132 Aldred finally succumbed to a fine bit of bowling scoring 51. An excellent performance by a young man making his debut at 1<sup>st</sup> XI. As wickets then began to tumble, the classy Moon continued strong and reached his century with a stonking 6 straight over the bowlers head. Perhaps this relief of reaching his century was partly to blame for his downfall when only two balls later he holed out in the deep.

With only two wickets remaining and time running out, a solid partnership between Herridge and Chataway saw Beths take the score from 201 to 245 and with Beths requiring 9 runs off the final over.

With Herridge losing his wicket with two balls to go, a draw was now the only option. The last couple of deliveries were easily dealt with and both teams departed the field with their heads held high.

Final score:

MCC 254 for 2

Beths 1<sup>ST</sup> XI 247 for 9

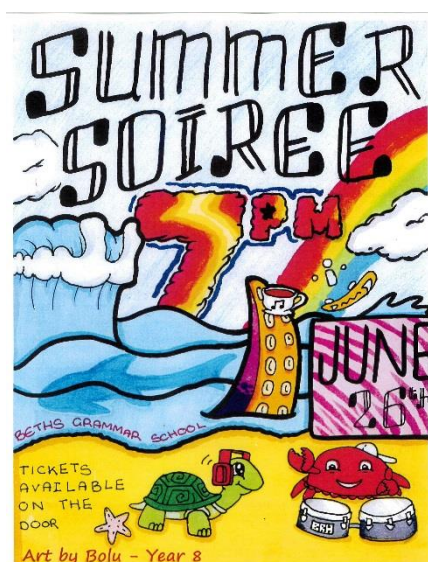
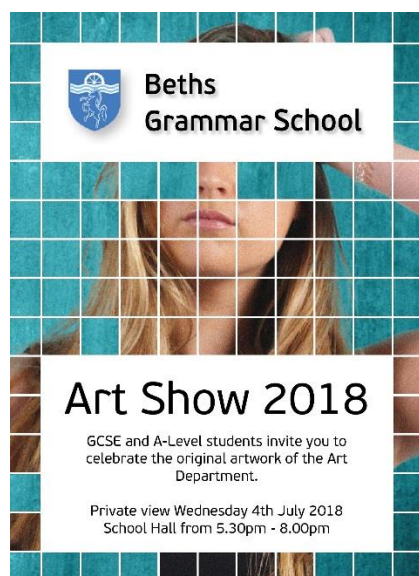
Match Drawn

### **Up and Coming Events**

Parents and Carers have recently been invited to attend our Summer Soiree and our Art Show. The Summer Soiree takes place on Tuesday 26 June at 7.00pm and will give our students the opportunity to showcase their musical talent. We are very grateful to the Parents Association who will be serving scones with jam and cream during the interval.

On Wednesday 4 July, from 5.30pm, we would like to invite you to view our Art Show and come and see the amazing work that our students have created.

Do please join us for one or both of these events.



### **“The Blue Kite” Review by Anson Chow – Anson has been studying the film as part of his Pre-U Mandarin**

The Blue Kite is a Chinese film, directed by Tian Zhuangzhuang, in 1993, that is set in the 1950s to 1960s, when China was undergoing three different movements to make the country fully communist: the Anti-Rightist movement, The Great Leap Forward and Cultural Revolution. The film shows the life of Tietou, a young Chinese boy who develops into a naughty, mischievous teenager from being a cheerful youth, due to unfortunate events throughout the early years of his life. Tietou and his family can be seen as a representation of Chinese people in how they experience the effects on their development of different movements on his once-normal lifestyle.

The Blue Kite was a film that was banned before its release in China and Tian Zhuangzhuang was banned for two years from filmmaking, due to the release of this film and led to an almost 10-year hiatus from directing. However, the film won top prize at the Tokyo International Film Festival in 1993. China was careful about films based on the Cultural Revolution as they feared that it may show a negative side to the Chinese Communist Party and may lead to erosion of the legitimacy of the CCP Government.



In the story of The Blue Kite, it is very clear that the titular kite was a major theme throughout the film. The blue kite could be seen as ordinary Chinese families (the kite itself) being tied to the Party's rules (the string that is being held onto by the person in control) and is unable to set itself free. The colour blue could be interpreted as a sad, cold colour, which is what the Party's activities is making the families feel. Tietou and his mother also experienced numerous "blue" moments throughout the whole film, such as the death of relatives.

Although the start of the film develops slowly, it eventually builds up a lot of tension and the characters change drastically, which allows the viewers to sympathise with The Blue Kite's sentimental story. An example of the development of characters is when Tietou progresses into a colder person, where he eventually blocks off new people that are entering his life, due to the influence of the movements on his life. This is effective as it portrays an idea to the audience that the movement was so influential on people's ordinary lives that it could change the personality of people.

This film has exceeded my expectations and impacted me with a range of emotions, such as the segments of the film where Tietou's fatherly figures all died due to the different movements. This film may be biased due to it portraying mainly the negative perspectives of the three big movements, but I believe that he purposely did this to show how he felt in his point of view, as he grew up during the Cultural Revolution and lost both of his persecuted parents. Overall, the film was extremely enjoyable, in the sense that I was able to learn a lot about Chinese history and also was able to feel what the Chinese citizens felt through the actors and the story itself. The Blue Kite showed the lifestyle of Chinese citizens in the 1950's very accurately. The actors displayed various skills and I would certainly recommend this film to people who have an interest in Chinese history and culture to watch it.

### **Open Events for Year 5 pupils moving to secondary school in September 2019**

Last year we held a series of 'informal' open events for boys in Year 5 due to sit their 11+ exams the following September. These were extremely popular and so we are therefore running something very similar again this year.

Events will take place on Monday 9, Tuesday 10, Wednesday 11 and Friday 13 July 2018 and the Headteacher will be welcoming visitors from 9.00am prior to a 'mini' guided tour of the school. The event is anticipated to be finished by 10.30am. This year we will be running a booking system which is available on our website. Numbers for each event are limited so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Please follow the link below which will take you to the bookings page:

<http://www.beths.bexley.sch.uk/page/?title=Year+5+Formal+Open+Events&pid=163>

### **Students on Site**

A reminder that there are still an increasing number of students arriving particularly early in the morning and staying late into the evening. The school actually opens for students at 8.00am in the morning and we would encourage all students (unless they are remaining for pre-arranged activities) to have left the site by 5.00pm.

This request is being made as we are unable to supervise students outside of these times and we can therefore take no responsibility for them, should they be involved in any form of incident. It would therefore be helpful if we could ask parents to please discourage their sons and daughters from being on the school site outside of these times.

### **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.