



Beths Blog

Week ending Friday 22 June 2018

Sports Day 2018 report: Beaney's blushes spared (just!) – by Henry Clark

It's the biggest event of the school calendar. An event that separates the men from the boys. A day that Mr Temple looks forward to almost more than Year 8 camp.

We may not have had the stadia of 'Super Saturday' but the rumble of the A2 created an atmosphere on the track that could've easily been mistaken for the London Stadium.



Beforehand the nerves were palpable. The LRC was even more a hive of activity than usual pre-registration and break time provided a chance to try and combat the butterflies and clammy palms.

Mr Temple was subdued more than usual as he scurried to and from the photocopier finalising the event schedules. Even after all these years, days of this magnitude can get to the best of us.

Of course, a leader is only as good as his troops – Messrs Timothy, Waite, Tarrant, Webb and Eydmann were all involved in the action in this all-hands-on-deck operation. From the long jump pit to the discus throwing area, the day moved along like a well-oiled machine.

The majority of sixth-formers proved to be able assistants too and were always keen to lend a hand in ferrying batons, recording times and, crucially, raking the pit.



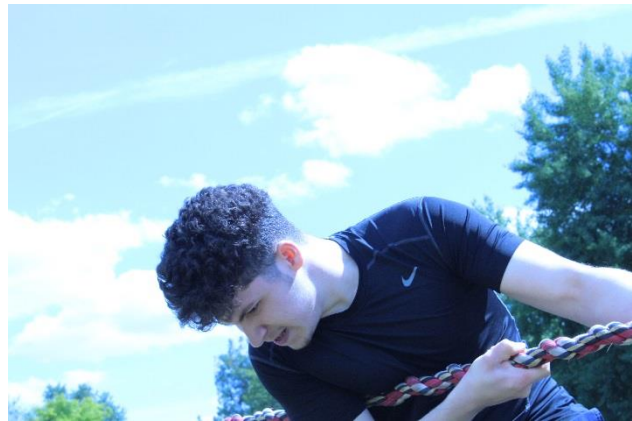
All athletes looked in fine fettle on a day that is surely the pinnacle of their sporting careers. There was clear evidence of one or two going the extra mile in training and refusing that slice of pizza at break for the past week and it reflected in the performances.

There were some excellent displays of athleticism in the morning as the field events got underway. Whilst we may not find the next Steve Backley or Jonathan Edwards, getting the moral victory over your class-mates was the best result you could possibly hope for.

The afternoon saw the main event as all year groups headed out to the field to witness the track events.

It drew crowds from all corners of the school as everyone from Mr McCartin to Ms Leggett made sure they had the best seats in the house for this unmissable event.

Mr Temple was armed with his starter's gun (with Mr Law clearly given the boot from those duties) and Mrs Royal with the microphone on commentary.



There were widespread worries amongst the crowd that the departure of Mr Hughes could see a loss of the dynamism in the commentary box compared to the iconic former duo but Mr Waite stepped up to the mark with his subtle, Henry Blofeld-esque tones.

Whilst the running techniques on display ranged from the sublime to the downright ugly no one could knock the effort and determination on show from all age groups.

The boys and girls bravely battled through the heat to leave everything on the line for their respective houses in front of the vocal crowd. Crowd marshal Mr McBeth even got in on the act as he displayed some animated antics from the sidelines in support.

Mrs Matkins, into her 15th Sports Day at the school, and Ms Paterson were left with the task of organising timekeepers and recording times. Suspicions did arise with the former's over-zealous celebrations following victories from boys in her form which raised questions over both the integrity of the event and impartiality of the officials.

News began to filter through too that Mr O'Reagan, on camera duties for the showpiece, was once a 200m county champion but that failed to overshadow the penultimate event everyone had been waiting for as the staff lined up against the sixth form in the 4x100m relay.

Messrs Eydmann, Tarrant, Webb and Beaney (making his debut) were left with the task of representing the staff.

Despite often facing jibes of just being 'failed sportsmen' Mr Eydmann and his streamlined haircut got the staff off to a great start with an opening leg that blew away the field.

Messrs Tarrant and Webb, who recovered from 'leg day' at the gym just the day before, maintained the early pace set going into the fourth and final leg. With clear daylight ahead it was left to Mr Beaney to finish the job.



The newbie member of the staff team clearly under-estimated the strength of the field and his technique, which saw more sideways than forwards movement at one stage, was more akin to a bull in a china shop.

Cries of "Beanie, Beanie, Beanie" rung in the crowd as his dip for the line just about got him and the staff team home cueing wild celebrations from his teammates.

The day truly showcased what a wonderful array of sporting talent the school possesses as the crowds were treated to a feast of competitive athletics. Perhaps some of our athletes will one day reach the Olympics, an event whose motto surmises what we all strive to be in everyday school life on and off the field: Citius, Altius, Fortius – Faster, Higher, Stronger.

Wicked – Tuesday 19 June

Wicked was an incredible experience for those who participated. For drama students it used all kinds of techniques that would help them later on in their GCSE courses and for music it showed some incredible vocal skills useful for their coursework. Everyone that went said they really enjoyed it and for all of us it was an amazing opportunity.

-Year 7 Drama and Music student

We had a great experience on the trip watching Wicked. The actors were brilliant and the songs were even better. Wicked is a great experience for any drama or music student wishing to partake in those GCSEs. It was a great experience!



-Year 8 student

Royal Albert Hall Workshop – Friday 15 June

‘In space no one can hear you scream’ says the tagline of the 1979 sci-fi film Alien. But why is that, and is this always true?

As part of their Festival of Science: Space, the Royal Albert Hall are visiting schools with a specifically designed Sound of Space Workshop for Year 7 and 8 students.

We were visited by Mike Poyser – the Royal Albert Hall’s resident musical scientist – and members of the Astrophysics group from Imperial College, London. The 90 minute workshop was designed to include lots of interactive activities to enlighten and inspire students.

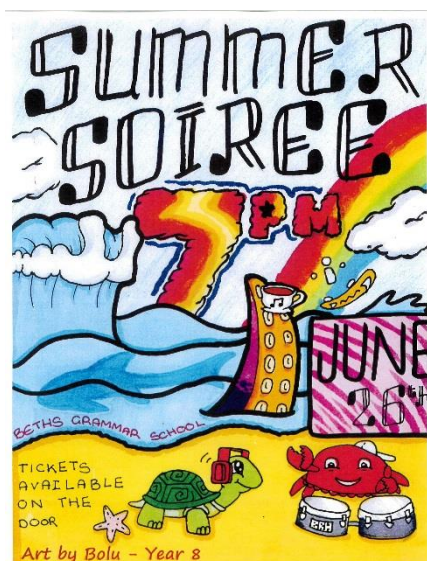
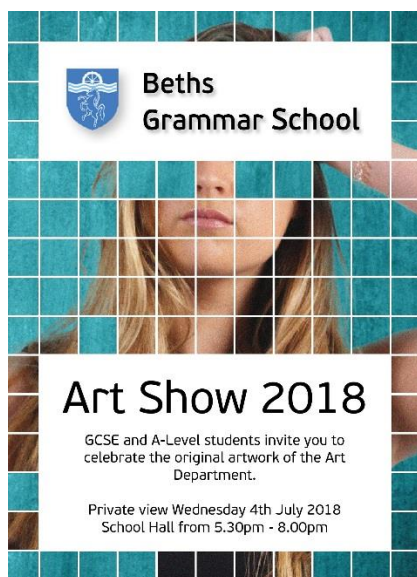


Up and Coming Events

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.



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.