



Beths Blog

Week ending Friday 20 July 2018

Message from the Headteacher, Mr Richard Blyghton

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

Following another busy, but successful year, it only leaves me to wish you all a very restful and enjoyable summer. The weather looks like it is going to continue in the same vein that it has for the last few weeks and the only thing that might have made it even better would have been if football really had been coming home!

Over the last couple of weeks, students have experienced a number of opportunities. Year 8 have attended Camp – this is the 40th year that it has run and beside my article you will find some photos of the students enjoying themselves whilst there – and, during the other week, experienced a university enrichment week to get them thinking about what they might like to do career-wise in the future. Some Year 7 students have travelled to Le Touquet and 45 students have taken part in their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh.

We are adding to the Photo Galleries currently available on our website and, where we have been provided with photos from trips and visits that have taken place, we have added these on. You can find out photo galleries by following this link: <https://www.beths.bexley.sch.uk/gallery/?pid=3&gcatid=3>.

A reminder that we are open for Year 13 students to collect their A Level results from 8.00am and Year 12 from 10.00am on Thursday 16 August and Year 11 students to collect GCSE results from 8.00am and Year 10 from 12 noon on Thursday 23 August.

As normal at this time of year, we will be losing some of our existing staff – to promotions in other schools or because they are relocating. These include Ms Royal, Ms Grant, Mr Skepple, Ms McLeod, Mr Wear, Ms Haggart and Ms Green and we wish them well in their future endeavours. We are also sad to announce that Mr Parsons, our Head of Social Sciences and also a Staff Governor, is retiring. However, we hope that he will return as an Appointed Governor during the next academic year.



We will also be welcoming a number of new staff to the school including Mr O'Brien who joins us as an Assistant Head from Skinners School and Ms Leonard as Head of Social Sciences from Erith School.

Staff return to school on Monday 3 September for a 'staff only day' and we look forward to welcoming students in Years 7 and 12 on Tuesday 4 September (for normal registration at 8.45am) and then all students return on Wednesday 5 September at the normal time. A further reminder that we have a second staff only day on Tuesday 11 September which is when the school closes and becomes an 11+ test centre for the day.

With best wishes.

RJBlyghton

Le Touquet

Some Year 7 students took part in visits to Le Touquet this week travelling by coach through the Eurotunnel to Calais.

They had lunch in Le Touquet which was followed by a trip to the local snail farm and shopping and dinner at the Hypermarket in Calais.



Year 8 Camp

The second group of boys returned last night from Camp – regaling their parents and carers with the experiences they had enjoyed in the New Forest and the new friendships that had been made.

Camp is a huge operation every year and it is one of the only opportunities that the boys have to really get away from technology and the trappings of the digital world and learn how to enjoy the outdoors and work with their team mates to get through the different challenges placed upon them.

As photos come through, we will continue to add them to the photo gallery on our website and, once put together, will be adding a video of all the adventures that took place.

Stock Exchange Challenge

On Wednesday, Year 10 students took part in a Stock Exchange Challenge. This workshop helps students with their approaches to teamwork, risk, responsibility, enterprise and profit.

Year 10 spent a full day working in teams, investing their stake in any of the nine fictitious companies on the ever-changing Stock Market Challenge Trading screen. Including daily newspapers, TV and radio bulletins, the teams are bombarded with information on their chosen business investments.

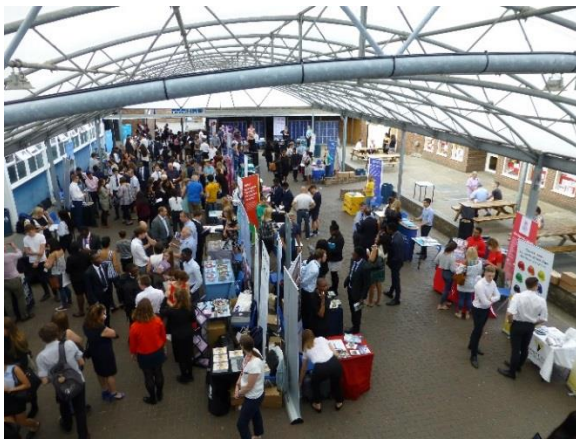


Working together, information analysis, taking risks, adapting to changes and predicting success are all vital in this workshop which really brings Financial Education to life!



Higher Education and Careers Evening

As we said in last Friday's Blog, our Higher Education & Careers Evening, held on Thursday 12 July was a really successful event and please find below a couple of photos from the evening.



PA Update

The PA would like to thank all the parents and carers for either supporting our events, buying refreshments at parents' evenings or purchasing raffle tickets, over the last year. We have managed to raise over £8,000 this year to fund much needed equipment for the benefit of the school.

We meet on the second Tuesday of every month (excluding April and August) at 7.30pm at the school. Our AGM takes place in October and we would be delighted to welcome new (and existing) parents and carers along to join us. Further details about this will follow in September.

Another date for your diaries is Saturday 17 November 2018 for the infamous Beths PA Quiz – always a great night out and, again, details to follow during the Autumn term.

In the meantime if you have any questions or would like to get more involved in the PA please do not hesitate to contact us by e-mail at Beths.parents.association@gmail.com.



Mr Blyghton has, this morning, drawn the winners of the summer draw. Top prize of £200 goes to James Dawes in Year 8, second prize of a photographic shoot worth £180 to A Costard and third prize to Emil Filip in Year 11 of a 60 minute Young Driver experience worth £60. Congratulations to you all!

Pictured is Mr Blyghton and Parent Association member (and Parent Governor) Olu Obafaiye, drawing out the lucky winning tickets.



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.

The school is unable to ensure there is a qualified first aider on site before 8.00am in the morning and after 4.30pm in the evening. 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 accident.

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.