



Beths Blog

Week ending Friday 19 October 2018

Half Term

Don't forget ... it's half term next week so no students are in school until Monday 29 October.

Open Morning

On Tuesday 30 October we have our final Open Morning for prospective boys joining us in Year 7 next September. Due to their mature and helpful attitudes on Wednesday, Year 7 students will again be called upon to tour our guests around the school.

Operation Christmas Child (Samaritans' Purse)

For the second year running the school will be involved in the Samaritans' Purse Christmas Shoebox Appeal. This is a campaign that thousands of schools, churches and other organisations from across the UK get involved with between September and November of each year. In fact, it is now the UK's largest children's Christmas appeal.



The idea is very simple – the students will pack a pre-printed shoebox with a range of gifts and bring this into school where we will act as a “collection point”. The charity will then come to school to collect the gift-filled boxes and send them overseas where local churches distribute them to children, on the basis of need alone. Each shoebox is an unconditional gift, given to children with nothing asked for, or expected in return; no pledges; “no strings attached”.

All students have received a leaflet which provides more information about the appeal and all the “does and don't” when packing the shoebox. Students can decide if they want to put together a box for a boy or girl and select the appropriate age group for the child. (An article about the benefits of this charity is on the next page).

This is a fantastic opportunity for Beths to be involved with as it fits perfectly with the values of the school. We can clearly display the values of **respect and community** by getting involved with this charity and we very much look forward to the many donations we hope to receive. There are over 1,500 students on the school roll at Beths and we would be delighted if we could get as close to this figure as possible. Family members are encouraged to donate to the packing of the box and your son could then bring this into school for collection. You are also welcome to make a monetary donation along with your shoebox and if you are a UK tax payer please tick the box for Gift Aid.

Pre-printed shoeboxes can be collected from Mr McBeth (Room C2) – or speak to your form tutor. They are free of charge.

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House points will be awarded for every student who brings in a gift-filled box and prizes will be awarded to the forms that bring in the most in each year group.

We would like students and families to work on this over the half-term break and bring them into school at **the very latest by Wednesday 15 November.**

The image to the right will give you examples of what to include in the box.

Thank you in advance!

Mr McBeth

St Mungo's

One of our Sixth Form students, Halimat, is currently campaigning to raise awareness of the homeless charity, St Mungo's.

Halimat has held assemblies this week for our Key Stage 4 and 5 students and will be holding an assembly at the beginning of November for Key Stage 3 students. She is heightening awareness of the charity and asking students (and staff) to kindly donate non-perishable food to make homeless hampers.

Young Leader's Presentation at Lords **– by O Meggs**

On 8 October all of the young leaders who took part in the programme over the past year visited Lords, the most prestigious cricket ground in the world.

When we arrived we sat down in the presentation hall and waited for the proceedings to begin. We began by going on a tour around the ground. During the tour, we were shown round the Lords Museum of cricket.

Within this museum was the Ashes, a trophy that is given to the winner of either England or Australia in the competition. We then travelled to the home side's changing room, where many legends including, Jimmy Anderson and Ian Botham, have used. As the tour came to an end, our last stop was the media centre, which I was told had won an award for architecture in 2015.

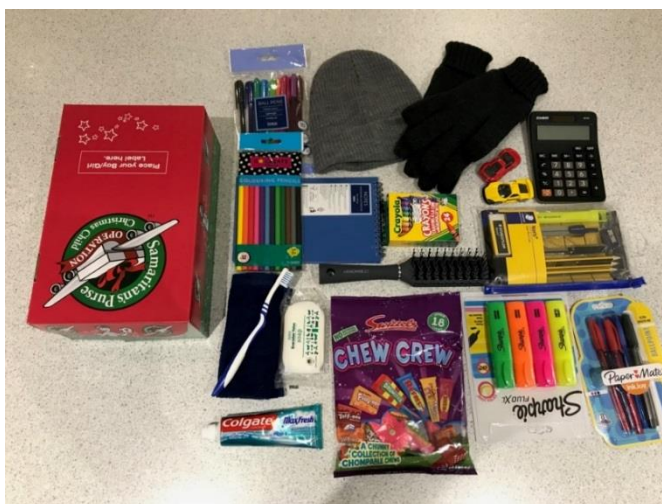
When we finished the tour we all congregated in the hall and waited for the presentation to begin. It began with a Sky Sports presenter interviewing a few of us young leaders, which included some of our students from Beths. During our interview, we were asked questions like, how much did you raise, what courses did you complete and how have these helped you? After this the presenter got Kent cricketer Harry Podmore up on stage and held a question and answer with the Kent fast bowler. After

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St Mungo's
Ending homelessness
Rebuilding lives



this it was time for our awards. If we completed all of the courses we would all receive six certificates in total. We then found out who had raised the most money, the top three amounts of money raised were ALL Beths students. To round off the great evening there was a raffle and one of the great prizes was won by a Beths.

International Week – In the Eyes of a Year 8 Student

From 24-29 September, at Beths we were delighted to be taking part in international week, a week full of events to do with many different nations and cultures. These events included:

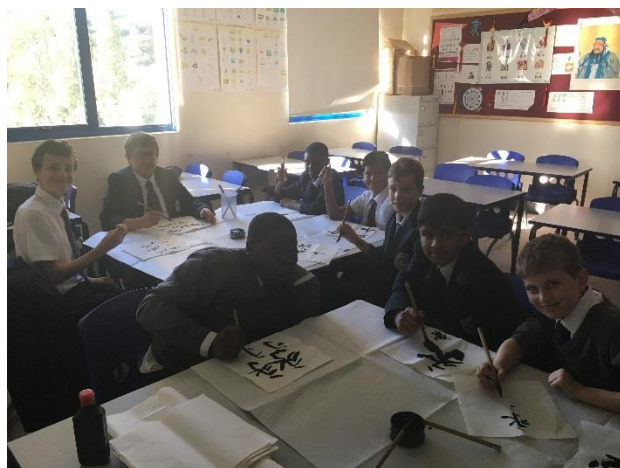
- *Spanish Tapas Tasting*
- *German Sausage Tasting*
- *Mandarin Calligraphy*
- *African Manga Games*
- *Learning Basic Portuguese and*
- *French Cheese Tasting*

On Monday 24 September, I took part in Spanish Tapas Tasting. There they had a variety of different foods such as: Spanish meatballs, Paella, Chorizo, Pastas and much more. We then were offered a Spanish dessert.



On Tuesday 25 September, it was Learning Portuguese. We were fortunate to be able to have a Portuguese teacher visit us from the University of Cambridge. Phrases that we learnt included how to say, “What is your name”, “Do you speak English” and “How old are you”. We also learnt how to count from 1-10 and how to answer the questions.

Wednesday 26 September was International Dress Up day. This was one of the most interesting days as you got to look around and see the diverse cultures within the school. In the afternoon you could go to the hall to get your picture taken and win prizes if you won the competition.



On Thursday 27 September, I went to the German Sausage Tasting. There was sauce to dip the sausage into as well as other types of sausage and cheeses. A dessert and drink were also given at this event.

Finally, on Friday 28 September was French Cheese tasting. At this event we were given a lot of different types of cheese such as: Blue Cheese, Swiss Cheese, Brie and many more.

Overall this was a week filled with fun experiences as well as getting to know the cultures of many different countries, all the events were culture inspired, so you could get a feel of how the Spanish and Germans eat. Also, you got to learn some of their language and games. This was a great experience for everyone who took part as they got to be part of the tradition the countries have and also enjoy them.

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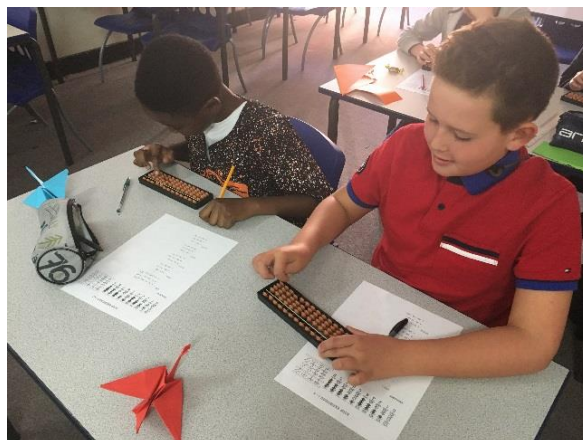
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During Language and Culture week, a few Year 7s were invited to attend a Japanese Maths abacus and origami lesson. Due to my love of Japan, and that of a fellow Year 8 student, we got to go too! We learnt two origami patterns (some learnt three) and occasionally were given some chocolate.

After the origami session, we learnt abacus. It was quite simple and more efficient than a calculator. We learnt how to read the abacus and solve complex Math with it. We were given a sheet of multiplications, adding, dividing and subtracting. Questions that would usually take a while to work out when written, were answered in under two minutes using the abacus.



Finally, we learnt to write our names in kanji, one of the three Japanese scriptures.

By Alfie (a.k.a アルフィースパイク)

Beths PA Monthly Draw

Congratulations to the following winners of the Beths PA Monthly Draw!

September winners

Mrs S Merauta £50 (quarterly prize)

Mrs S Anene £20

Mrs L Bullen £10

October winners

Mrs S Hosken £20

Mrs E Amadsun £10

Many thanks for taking part and for a chance to win, buy your Monthly Draw numbers now!

Each number costs just £6, and will be entered into 12 monthly draws starting in January 2019.

There is no limit on the amount of numbers you may purchase. If you would like to take part then simply email beths.parents.association@gmail.com and ask for a monthly draw form.

You can pay for your numbers via ParentPay, selecting "PA monthly draw". Good luck!

Sport

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL			
Kent	31.10.2018	U14B v Rokeby	Away
ESFA	02.11.2018	U15 v Oasis Academy	Home

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RUGBY			
Friendly	31.10.2018	1 ST XV v Maidstone Grammar	Home
	03.11.2018	U12 v Woodlands School	Home
		U13 v Woodlands School	Home
		U15 v Woodlands School	Home
		U14 v Woodlands School	Away
		1 st XI v Woodlands School	Away
EVENT			
Primary School Sports Hall Athletics	30.10.2018		15.45-17.50

RESULTS

FOOTBALL				
Kent	15.10.2018	U12B v Hayes	Away	3-8 Lost
	16.10.2018	U16 French v Ravensbourne	Away	3-0 Won
Premier	17.10.2018	1 st XI v WGSB	Away	5-0 Won
	17.10.2018	2 nd XI v Ravensbourne	Away	0-4 Lost
ESFA Elite	15.10.2018	U15 v Oasis	Home	Postponed until 02.11
ESFA	16.10.2018	U14 v Carshalton	Home	4-1 Won
	18.10.2018	U15 v Rutlish	Away	5-0 Won
RUGBY				
NatWest Bowl	15.10.2018	U15 v TWGS	Home	40-0 Won
Friendly	17.10.2018	1 ST XV v Robert Clack	Home	31-19 Won
Kent	18.10.2018	U14 v Rochester Math	Away	5-60 Lost
BASKETBALL				
	18.10.2018	U16 v Bohill	Home	44-28 Won

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Coming up

Year 11 Trial Exams

On the Wednesday after half term, Trial Exams for Year 11 students commence in the school hall. Parents have already been sent details of the Trial Exams programme and students will be dismissed for study leave after their Period 3 and 4 examinations, if they do not have an exam during the afternoon session. Please note, however, students are expected in school on Monday 29 and Tuesday 30 October in advance of the Trial Exams.

Year 13 Parents Evening

Year 13 Parents Evening takes place from 16.00-20.00 on Thursday 8 November. Parents have been sent a reminder today and students should start making their appointments with their teachers upon their return to school, after the half term, on Monday 29 October.

PA Quiz Night

By popular demand the quiz night returns! Swat up and bring your friends and family – let's see who's the smartest! It is arranged for Saturday 17 November and you can book tables for up to eight via the PA at beths.parents.association@gmail.com.



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.

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