



Aspire to Achieve

Bushey Meads NEWS



Senior UK Mathematics Challenge - 6th November 2014

By Suresh Varsani, Head of Maths Faculty

All of our Year 12 Mathematics students will be taking part in the UK Senior Maths Challenge on Thursday 6th November 2014. Students have been preparing for the challenge and will continue to stretch their brains over half term with further preparation. The questions are designed to stretch, challenge and inspire the students to think out of the box to solve a variety of problems - essential skills for success in all of our STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) and future STEM related careers.

The challenge is run by the UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT), which is a registered charity whose aim is to advance the education of children and young people in Mathematics. The UKMT organises national Mathematics competitions and other Mathematical enrichment activities for 11-18 year old school pupils in the UK. They were established in 1996 and last academic year over 600,000 pupils from 4,000 schools took part in the three individual challenges, the UK's biggest national Maths competitions. Each challenge leads into a follow-on Olympiad round and the trust run mentoring schemes and summer schools for high performing students as well as training the team of six to represent the UK in the International Mathematical Olympiad.

BEST OF LUCK TO ALL OF OUR YEAR 12 COMPETITORS!

Future Maths Challenge dates:

- Thursday 5th February 2015:
Intermediate UK Mathematics Challenge (Maths sets 10.1 and 10.2)
- Thursday 30th April 2015:
Junior UK Mathematics Challenge (Maths sets 8.1.1 and 8.1.2)

Diary Dates

24th October 2014

INSET Day

27th-31st October 2014

Half Term

4th November 2014

Year 11 Parents Evening
Exam Preparation

4th & 5th November 2014

Year 10 Gifted & Talented
Drama Performances

6th November 2014

Year 10 & 12 Debating Matters:
First Heat

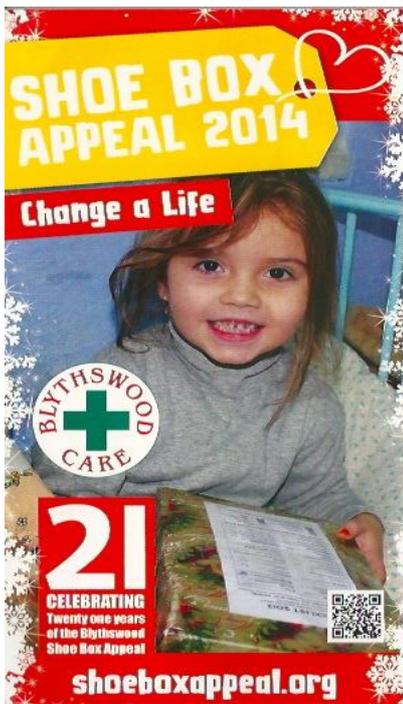
Please note that the Inset day
scheduled for Monday 1st June
2015 has now been moved to
Friday 26th June 2015.



Year 11 Parents – Top Tips for Success

We are holding an exam revision evening for Year 11 parents/carers on Tuesday 4 November from 6.30-7.30pm in the main school hall. Tea and coffee is available from 6pm.

The evening will focus on some "Top Tips" for success in the upcoming Pre Public Exam's (PPEs) and final exams in the summer.



Shoe Box Appeal – Donate A Gift

Please support Blythswood Care Shoe Box Appeal - donate a gift to someone in need.

The school has been supporting this charity for a number of years and students have been made aware in tutorial time about the wonderful work that this organisation carries out. Please read the leaflet your child has been given and encourage them to either fill a shoe box with the items that are listed, or donate some of the items so the charity representatives can combine gifts to make up shoe boxes for their forms.

The closing date to bring these in is Friday 7th November.

For further information please visit shooboxappeal.org

Aspire to Acheive

By Lee Arnold, Assistant Headteacher (KS4)

This week's Theme of the Week was Achievement when students from all key stages were invited to reflect on two key questions connected with the Bushey Meads motto "Aspire to Achieve": what is achievement and what does it take to succeed?

Three students assisted Mr Arnold in expressing their ideas on these questions: Head Girl Sophia, 13Elm, explained what it took for her to achieve an A grade at A level Spanish; Head Boy Jamie, 13Maple, spoke about qualities related to his leadership of the Technical Theatre Club; and Taarik, 11Beech, spoke about his impressive go-karting exploits.

During the week in form time, students thought in depth about Achievement and created mini action plans to help them achieve their goals for the half term holidays and beyond.





Many children in Africa are unable to attend school as they do not have a uniform. Project Hope UK is working with schools in Africa to provide donated school uniform, enabling more children to be permitted to go to school to receive their education.

We are donating all our old Bushey Meads School uniform to this worthy charity.

The uniform will be collected by the House and Charity reps during form time on Monday 3rd November and Tuesday 4th November. Thank you in advance for your

Focus on Ms Waring & Mr Hawkins

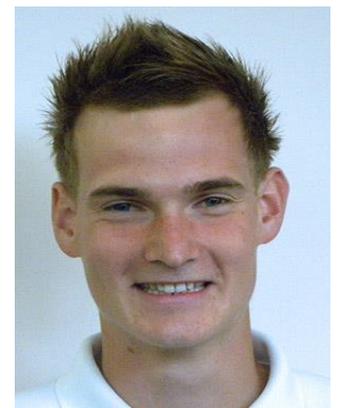
Through this half term we have been introducing our new teaching staff to you – this week as we approach half term the mission will be completed with our final two new members of staff – Mr Sam Hawkins in PE and Ms Morag Waring in Humanities and Art.



Ms Waring is teaching across all the Humanities subjects as well as Art. She studied ceramics before moving into teaching and is using these skills on a project with her Year 7 students which will be displayed in the F-block courtyard during the course of next half term. She has taught at both Parmiters and Watford Girls and finds Bushey Meads 'an incredibly friendly place with wonderful students who have such good ideas and interesting thoughts'. Outside of school Ms Waring is a keen sportswoman. She plays in the ladies team at West Herts Hockey Club and her other main sports are skiing, snowboarding and climbing. We welcome her on board with us.

A large number of you will probably recall Mr Hawkins from previous years when he was a member of our dedicated team of Teaching Assistants. We all wished him well as he left us to take up teacher training. We are now all so pleased to be able to welcome him back with us as a qualified PE teacher.

Needless to say, he has fitted back into the Bushey Meads community very quickly, many of us almost forgetting he was ever away. Welcome back Mr Hawkins!



Lest We Forget.

Don't forget!

Please bring in a donation after half term to receive a Poppy.

Students of the Week



Key Stage 5 – Eleanor, 12Elm

By Sara Ash, Assistant Headteacher KS5

Our KS5 student of the week this week is Eleanor who is currently in Year 12. She has been awarded this for her excellent start to Year 12 and the commitment she has shown to the school. Eleanor is currently studying Art, Biology, French and Mathematics.



Key Stage 4 - Angel, 10Oak

By Jenny Depper, KS4 Learning Mentor

Angel is a student who is making progress in all kinds of different ways. Angel has strong self-belief and as a consequence we are seeing a student who is blossoming and happy. Angel's attitude, application and attainment have been very impressive this academic year. She displays delightful social interaction with both fellow students and her teachers.

Angel receives support within a Key Skills group of students and due to hard work and a positive attitude to learning she is beginning to experience success across the curriculum. KS4 would like to congratulate Angel on her accomplishments and her continued determination to improve and succeed.



Key Stage 3 – Amy-Sue, 7Oak

By Preya Dhanecha, KS3 Pastoral Manager

Amy-Sue is in Year 7 and is the first in her year group to win the £100 prize during our rewards assembly. Our rewards are given based on a number of factors including 100% attendance and punctuality, consistent patterns of excellent work produced across all curriculum areas and outstanding behaviour and effort.

We would like to congratulate Amy-Sue on being the first winner of our big prize and for making such a fantastic start at secondary school.

Well done Amy-Sue!

Entrepreneur Live 2014: Student Conference

Business Studies

By Dylan, 10Elm and Mrs Pinkus, Business Studies Teacher



On Tuesday 14 October 2014, Year 10 Business Studies students attended the annual Entrepreneur Live conference. It was there that the students were treated to an insight of how a new start up gets their business off the ground and how the entrepreneurs themselves experienced their 'Light Bulb Moment.'

Answering questions such as where do ideas come from, what is the source of your idea, how do you finance this were new entrepreneurs Ross Kemp of ASAP Watercrafts, Arnold du toit of Rolley Golf, Rob Tominey of Mainstage Travel and Micha Quashie of Fusion Food Hall. It became evident that these entrepreneurs had different skills that helped

them succeed in their business, most important of which were determination, organisation, commitment and problem solving. We were able to witness for ourselves the theory of Business Studies in actual practice. We could now understand the importance of the skills studied and learned how to project ourselves in our future.

To complement the event, all schools were invited to take part in an Upcycle Bin challenge, wherein recyclable products could be 're-invented'. Of the numerous entries, Bushey Meads was selected to speak about their Canterns (a portmanteau of the term Cans and Lanterns). Helen (10Willow), Tracey (10Beech) and Yennie (10Beech) presented their business idea, answered the questions posed by the entrepreneurs and were praised highly for their innovative idea. This team gained the Bronze award.



In a further challenge, three of the group volunteered to be put on the hotspot to answer questions. These were Max (10Willow), Junaid (10Beech) and Harry (10Sycamore). A courageous thing to do and one which they enjoyed.

This was a great event enjoyed by all.

Free Your Feet Winners

The winners of the Free Your Feet Walk to School vouchers were:

£30	Bethany Trickett - 7Oak
£10	Eleanor Vroome – 8Elm
£10	Lily Scourfield – 8Ash
£10	Lorcan Bull – 8Elm
£10	Ayisha Rashid – 8Ash



Atlanta Falcons NFL Team Visit Bushey Meads

Monday 20th October

By Sarah Cooper, PE & Health Teacher

Bushey Meads School secured a rare and unique opportunity in hosting the Atlanta Falcons NFL team.

The only school in the country to host the Atlanta Falcons. Bushey Meads were offered the opportunity because of the work the PE and Health Faculty do in providing a wide range of sporting activities for all students within the school; this was an opportunity we could not pass up on.

Arriving in Bushey to work with year 7's from Bushey Meads, students from Little Reddings and Falconer Schools, were 60 players, the cheerleading squad and the coaching staff from the American Football team the Atlanta Falcons.

Security was tight as some of the richest men in sport stepped off of the coaches, directly from their flight from Atlanta, and onto the Bushey Meads astro. After an initial address from Falcons head coach **Mike Smith**, the Falcons worked with groups of students on a range of activities aimed at giving young people in our community a taste of American Football.



With media crews from Sky Sports News, CNN, Hayters and the NFL to name but a few, Bushey Meads hit the headlines on a global scale, with the students the stars of the show. Praised by event organisers **Chris Millman** and **David Quiroga** for their well mannered and enthusiastic approach, this was a once in a lifetime opportunity for the students and they were fantastic ambassadors for the school.

The event was well supported by Bushey Meads staff who gave up their break time and free lessons to help supervise the event, provide encouragement for students and get a close up glimpse of some very big athletes!

The Falcons were fantastic with the students and were enthusiastically supported by the GB American Football development squad from Birmingham University, and the Falcon Cheerleaders and unsurprisingly lots of fun was had by all.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank the Atlanta Falcons, Chris and David from the Falcons, The NFL team especially Mayssa, Cate and Melissa, Helen Hopkins

from the Herts Schools Partnership, the team of volunteers and everyone else who made this such a memorable day in Bushey Meads History. Go Falcons!

Thank you also to the amazing staff at Bushey Meads: teaching staff who put up with the disruption to lessons and pumping music and helped with shepherding students back to lessons, the admin staff who directed people all around the school, the site staff who were brilliant, as usual, at setting up and removing equipment, the sixth form prefects, Mr Shah and his team of IT support students, and finally anyone else who might have been missed off..... a great team effort from the Meads as usual. Go Meads!

Use the address below to get a close up view of the day with a range of photos and the video from the Atlanta Falcons website:

<http://www.busheymeads.org.uk/pe-and-health/bm-in-action/?album=1&gallery=12>



Atlanta Falcons – Students Report

By Jamie Sadur, 12Maple & James Allett, 12Oak



This Monday the NFL's very own Atlanta Falcons American football team came to Bushey Meads to introduce the sport to the students. On Monday, quite a crowd was drawn to the astro turf, to see the Atlanta Falcons entire team, coaching staff and cheerleaders arrive.

The Atlanta Falcons are an American football team that was founded in 1966 and play in the NFL, or as it otherwise known; the 'National Football League'. The team has come over as on Sunday, 26th October they are playing a game at Wembley Stadium against the Detroit Lions for the NFL International series held every year in England. During

their visit to London they decided to come to Bushey Meads School to promote the sport to an English audience and also to get children interested in doing and joining in with sports activities outside of school as well as in school. They came for a programme called Play 60 which promotes all of the above.

Children from schools around the Hertfordshire area, such as Little Reddings School & Falconer School came for the Play 60 Initiative and by the look of it, everyone loved it. On the astro turf there were set drills for Years 6 and 7 students to rotate around. The stations were named after different positions that would be seen on an American football field; this way students experienced all the positions and what it would be like to be an actual American footballer. The drills were first of all run by team leaders from Play 60. The team leaders were great with the children explaining and showing the kids things they did not quite understand; all the kids were involved and having fun with the sport.



The players then arrived at 11:30am. The General Manager, Thomas Dimitroff and Head Coach Mike Smith entered first and both encouraged them to cheer for the Falcons during Sunday's game. Then the players entered. The Atlanta Falcons cheerleading team led the players onto the astro turf to the music that was being played. The players then took over at each station. The children were very excited and the players very friendly. The students and even some adults and teachers asked for photos and the players were very happy to pose for them.

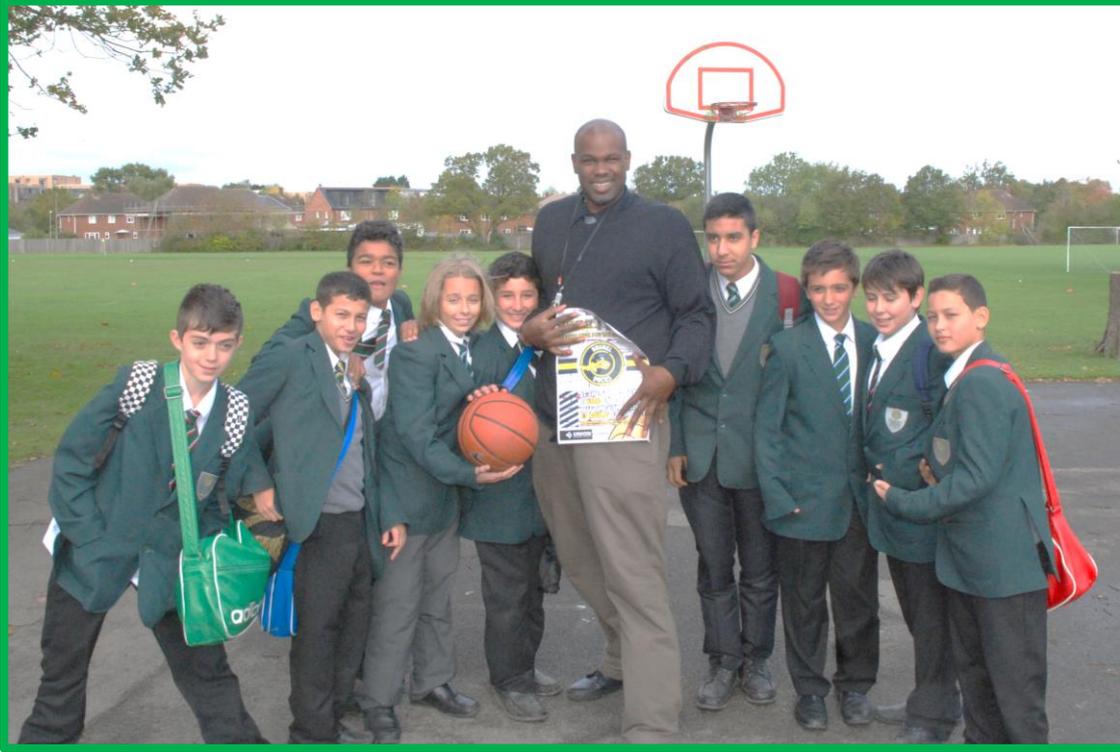
Taking up the sport may sound difficult but there are teams all around England that you can join. The closest to our school being the Hertfordshire Cheetahs. One student from our school already represents the team and hopefully, this will encourage more people to join.

Overall the whole event was great for the students who were involved, and the sport of American Football. Let's hope that someday, in the future one of these students will become an NFL superstar. I'd also like to thank the Play 60 for coming along and making this happen.



Brunel Ducks

By Damian Reid, Cover Teacher



My basketball journey has already taken me to over 15 countries around the world and I have played against some of the world's best basketball players that continue to dazzle crowds at all ends of the spectrum. I was always fascinated with sport and travel as a youngster growing up in East Toronto, Canada. When I was 18, I received a £200,000 sports scholarship to St. Joseph's University Philadelphia.

So at a very young age, I got to live out most of my fondest dreams. I graduated SJU in 2002, with a BA in English Studies and a Minor in Business Management directly from University I got drafted to the NBA development league which began my days as a traveling professional player. Countries I played in during my pro career are as follows: France, Spain, Austria, Germany, Italy, Belize, Sweden, Kosovo, UK.

I loved playing the sport of basketball, but loved the passion for travelling a bit more. I was slowed down on my basketball journey due to bothersome wear & tear injuries and thoughts of enjoying a nice healthy pain-free future lifestyle. I decided to stop playing professionally in 2008.

During that time and a bit previous to 2008, I was highly involved in the UK sport & education system. And it was through my early experiences in the UK sport & education that lead me to want to stay involved in the U.K. School System.

I was given a wonderful opportunity this year 2014 to get back to playing basketball by the UK's newest and most promising National League side: Brunel University Mens Team. Coached by an old 'London United Basketball Club' team-mate of mine, Pete Deppisch, I jumped at the opportunity to get back at playing basketball at a highly competitive level. And with such luck and timing, Our Brunel Ducks team have been selected to undergo- a very rare, USA stateside venture and playing tour. The young Duck's team will travel to Miami, Florida, October 31st- Nov 8th where they will play as featured guest's to 5 USA Division 2 NCAA basketball universities and specialist clubs.

The Brunel team hope to be competitive and look forward to this excellent UK sporting adventure. I'm hoping some new skills and training techniques learned from my new Basketball venture can help strengthen my already exciting basketball knowledge, and help build a nice basketball future with and for some of very keen future BMS basketball players themselves.

Year 9 Football

By Matthew O'Kelly, PE & Health Teacher



On Saturday morning the Year 9 boys Football team played St Joan of Arc. After a slow start where the boys fell behind 2-0 the lads came back to win 3-2. Victor Williams won a penalty for the first of the goals (seen in two of the pictures) and two more goals were slotted home by Curtis Meale in the second half to give a well deserved win.

The team have been playing some excellent football this year competing in the top division within the District and can be very proud of their performances.



FINAL SCORE

Bushey Meads.....3
St Joan of Arc.....2

Word of the Week

By Mike Dawson, Head of English Faculty

Consistency (noun)

1. *the thickness or smoothness of a substance*
2. *the quality of being reliable, expected, regular, steady*

Example (for 2): He was a consistent student. He always produced work of a high standard, and never let himself down.

Comment: Consistency is a prized quality. To refer to it, to discuss it, will usually engage a reader.



Rewards Evening

By Preya Dhanecha, KS3 Pastoral Manager

This past week we have hosted the first round of rewards assemblies where our top students were recognised in front of their tutors, the Executive Principal, Mr Turner and their peers. The students are picked using various criteria including 100% attendance, excellent effort across all curriculum areas and outstanding behaviour amongst other things. The assemblies are always enjoyable events and this half term was no different.

We had Adam Dalby, 9Elm, playing the piano while the presentation ceremonies were taking place and our cheer leader girls from Year 11 put on a fantastic show at the end to close the events. We would like to congratulate all of our reward winners and look forward to another successful half term when we come back in November. I would like to take this opportunity to give a special mention to our Year 7 children who have made an absolutely fantastic start at Bushey Meads!



Year 8 Football

By Ashley Cartledge, Head of PE & Health Faculty

The football season continued last Saturday with fixtures against St Joan of Arc school. The Bushey Meads school teams have played just under 40 matches already this half term with the boys showing improvement across all ages. Saturday saw a win for the year 9 team but defeats for year 7 and 8.

The Year 7 team currently lie second in the Watford District Division 1 having won 4 of their 5 League games so far. The Year 8 team also lie second in the League winning 4 of the 5 league games and their District Cup Quarter-Final with a win over FC Academy. The Year 9 team continue their good form with a strong start in the Watford District Premier League and a win the 1st Round of the County Cup. The Year 10 team currently lie second in the league and the Year 11 and Under 18 League seasons will develop over the next half term.

Special mention to the Under 18 team who travelled 40 miles to Buntingford for a County Cup fixture and were unlucky to lose in extra-time after a really promising performance. Well done to all the boys who have represented the school football teams so far. Fixtures will continue after half term and training for the rugby and basketball teams will also begin shortly.



Important Message from Mullany's Coaches

The BM2 service is so successful that it is now oversubscribed. In order to manage this situation, and maintain the safety of all students, cash fare passengers will no longer be accepted on the route as from Monday 3rd November 2014.

Those who wish to continue to use the service should contact Mullany's Coaches directly on 01923 279991 to purchase a pass. Mullany's Coaches will continue to monitor the situation in the interim and endeavor to accommodate as many passengers as possible.