

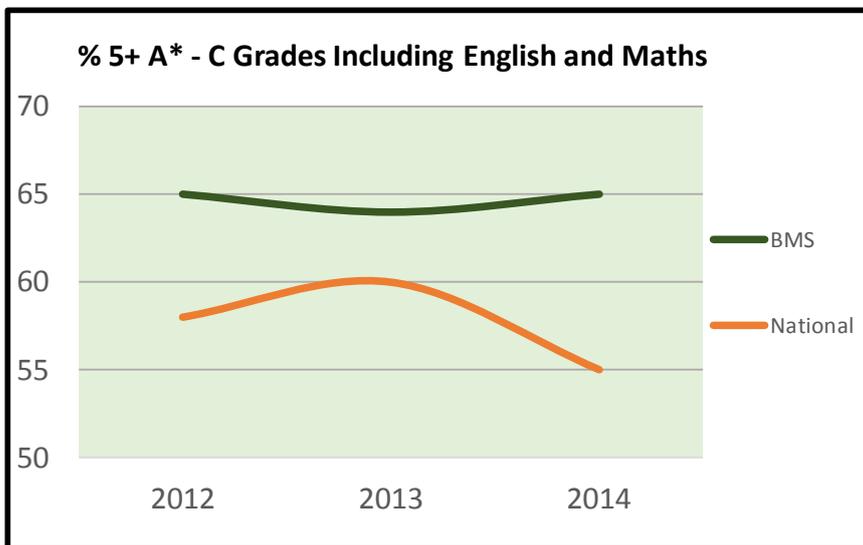
National Recognition for Progress Significantly Above Expectation

Aspire to Achieve



Every year the Department for Education publishes a comprehensive document detailing each school's results from the previous August. This year the 'RAISEonline booklet' indicated that in many areas Bushey Meads School is performing well above nationally expected levels and is also adding significant progress to students' education.

As many parents are aware many schools saw a significant drop in their 5+ A* - C measure including English and Maths (one of the key headline measures that indicates overall school performance) and many schools' scores dropped by as much as 10%. Indeed nationally this measure fell by 5% overall. What is outstanding is that at Bushey Meads School this measure rose by a whole percentage point, bucking the national trend and reflecting the excellent education provided and the significant hard work and commitment of all the staff at the school.



% achieving 5 or more A* to C (inc English and Maths)	2012	2013	2014*
Cohort	162	165	167
School	65	64	65
National	58	60	55
Difference	7	4	10
Significance			Sig+

Dates for the diary

2 February

Y12 Politics Trip to House of Commons

3 February

Y10/12 Holocaust Memorial Visit

4 February

Y11 History Trip to The Doctors Show

5 February

Y10 Intermediate Maths Challenge
Y10 Parent Consultation Evening

6 February

Y10 Fire Skills Course
Y12/13 PPE Results Event

7 & 8 February

School Production Rehearsals

9 to 12 February

Les Miserables School Production

13 February

Inset Day – school closed

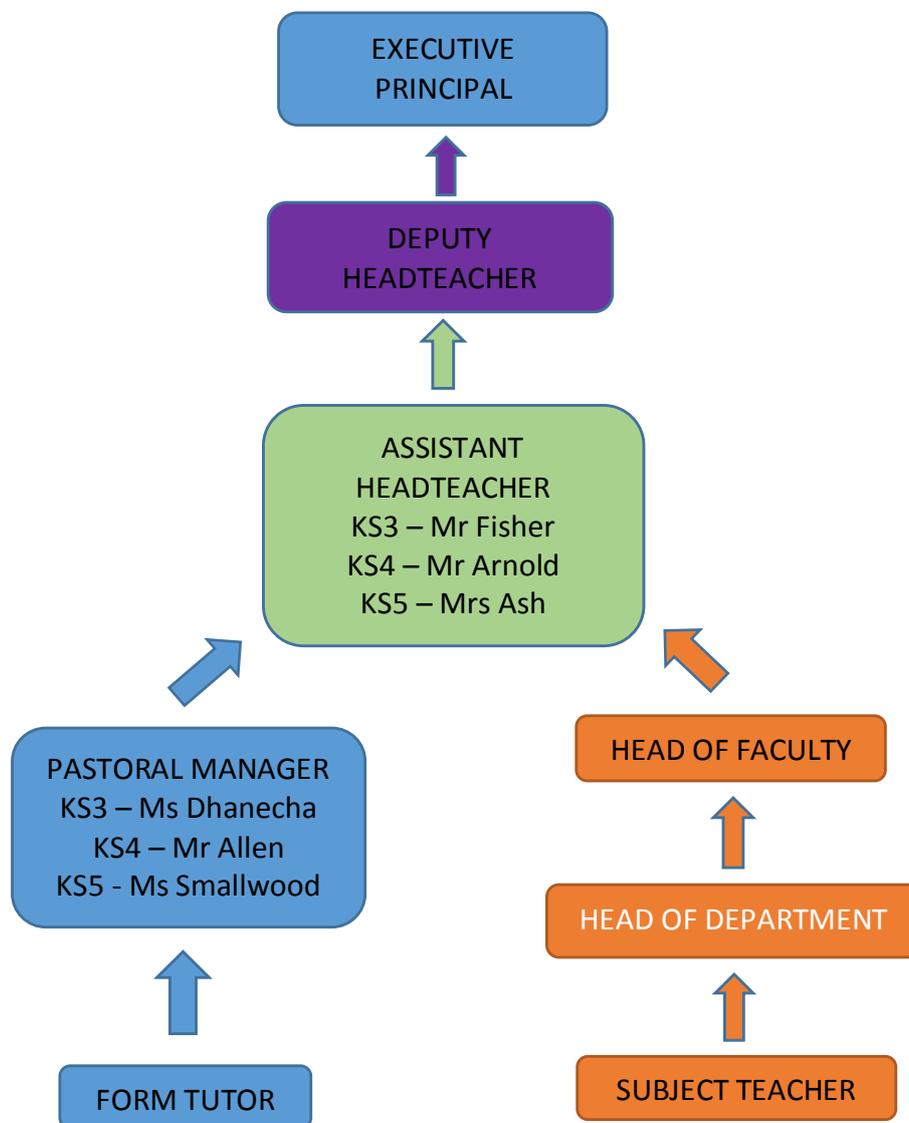
Half Term – 16 to 20 February

In the RAISEonline booklet any highlighted green indicator shows attainment or progress that is **significantly above national expectation**. We should all be very proud of what the school has achieved and be spurred on to even greater achievement.

Jeremy Turner, Executive Principal

Channels of Communication

In a large school it is important to know who to contact if you would like to raise a concern or provide us with information. If you have a concern you would like to share with the school regarding your son or daughter your first point of contact needs to be the subject teacher or the form tutor. They can be contacted via the school email or telephone number marking it for their attention.



Global Leadership Programme

By Sara Ash, Assistant Headteacher KS5



globalgiving.co.uk

A group of Year 12 students have volunteered to take part in the Global Leadership Programme which is run by the charity Global Giving UK. The aim of the programme is to develop their understanding of Global issues and to develop their own skills such as communication, management and organisation. The students are looking at the topic of "Child soldier: A right to flight". The programme runs over five sessions and finishes with a presentation of their research on Wednesday 25th March.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

KEY STAGE 3



Joshua – 7Elm

This week's Student of the Week for Key Stage 3 is Joshua. Joshua has been jointly nominated by the Pastoral Manager, Miss Dhanecha and his Future Skills teacher, Ms. Gregory, for producing some excellent work in lesson. Joshua was required to make a model of a volcano that involved soldering and wiring which he did incredibly accurately and neatly. Joshua was also the first to complete his project and was asked to help other students complete theirs. From a Pastoral point of view, Joshua has made an excellent start at Bushey Meads School and has worked well to settle into his new routine with class changes, new subjects and multiple subject teachers. Joshua is always pleasant and a real delight to have as part of our school community. Well done Joshua. We are very proud of you!

KEY STAGE 4



Tristan - 11 Oak

Tristan is this week's KS4 student of the week. On Monday 26th January Tristan completed his final GCSE Catering practical assessment. Tristan made a perfect Salmon en Croute and Lemon Tart that was divine. Tristan often helps with the catering at staff events and next year will be attending Westminster Kingsway College in London to study for a Professional Chef diploma. He hopes to own his own restaurant one day.

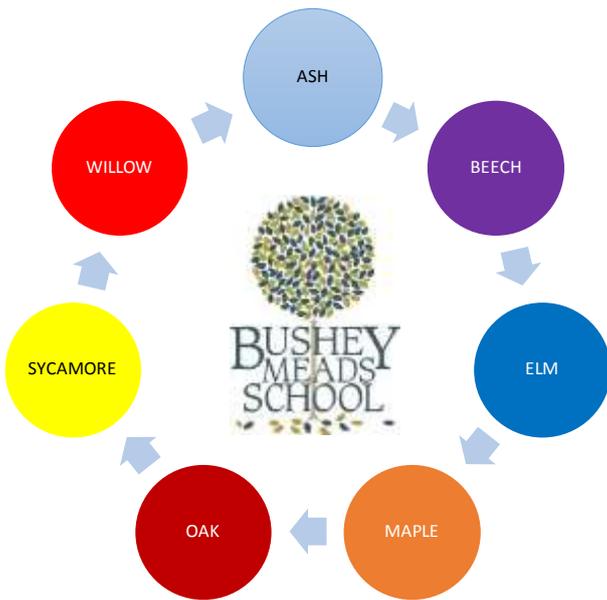
KEY STAGE 5



Charmaine - 12Maple

Our KS5 student of the week this week is Charmaine who is currently in Year 12. She has been awarded this for her outstanding effort in all her lessons and her excellent attitude in and around the 6th form. Charmaine is currently studying Biology, Chemistry, French and Philosophy and Ethics.

THEME OF THE WEEK – Living as a Family



The Heads of House have led House assemblies this week on the theme of Living as a Family. Students have looked at the different types of family units that exist and what it means to be part of a family. Assemblies have also explored the House system as a family unit, celebrating the successes many students have had.

Year 11 Revision - Advice and Opportunities

By Lee Arnold, Head of Key Stage 4

With only approximately 50 teaching days to go until the GCSE exam season gets underway, Year 11 students are already in revision mode, preparing for these exams in lessons and now hopefully revising independently at home.

Year 11 students should be revising for two hours a night and at weekends for at least half a day each day (i.e. three hours a day). Make sure everyone else in your household knows your son or daughter is revising and should not be disturbed. They need to be able to concentrate and will need space to do their work. Students have been given all the right schemes of work and revision lists, but there is no harm in asking if they have all the text books they need and have access to past papers that are so vital for revision.



E-Learning is another effective way to revise. Please ensure that students can access the school's Learning Gateway from home. For some subjects there are excellent websites such as 'mymaths' and SAM Learning - make sure they know all the passwords they need to access all the different websites.



Molly-Mae is a Year 11 student who believes that customising revision notes is a good way of making information stick: "I apply highlighters in lots of colours across my revision notes to make key passages bold and bright. It then stands out and I find I can remember more information".

All subjects have now arranged their lunchtime and after school revision sessions to support Year 11 students. Indeed, some sessions are already up and running. For a full list of these interventions running between now and the start of the exam season, please see the KS4 academic news section on the school's website.

Daily Steps to Greatness.....

By Jeremy Turner, Executive Principal

Each and every day at Bushey Meads School students and staff are working exceptionally hard to ensure that all students realise their true potential, epitomised by our Strategic Commitment Purpose and Intent formalised in September of this year.



We are committed to ensuring that all students enjoy reaching their full potential, becoming lifelong learners and positively contributing to society.

Our school motto ***Aspire to Achieve*** also continues to encourage all students to aim high.

Even the letters of our school name can inspire us to achieve – cleverly used by one of our students and passed to me by a member of staff earlier this year.

Brilliant **U**nderstanding **S**taff **H**elp **E**very **Y**oung **M**ind **E**xpand **A**nd **D**evelop **S**uccessfully

To me it sums up the commitment of all the staff in the school and how we are all working towards one clear goal.

Les Miserables - Catch Up With The Stars

By Amira - Arts Faculty Journalist

The Les Miserables rehearsals are swiftly coming to a close as we reach the end of Act 2 and start to round things off in preparation for the performances. I'm sure by now most of you have bought your tickets and are eagerly anticipating the performance. If not, hurry, they're selling fast!!

I caught up with Georgie, Year 10, who plays the principal role of Eponine. Here's what she had to say...

Amira: So, Georgie, who do you play in Les Mis?

Georgie: I play Eponine in the Junior cast.

Amira: Amazing, so you'll be performing on Monday the 9th and Wednesday the 10th. You're looking forward to it?

Georgie: I love playing Eponine, yeah!

Amira: So is there a lot of pressure, seeing as it is a principle role, and Samantha Barks did an astonishing performance in the film?

Georgie: There is a lot of pressure, yeah, but I love Samantha and I watch her and try to take inspiration by seeing how she acts things and I take that and make it into (on) my own.

Amira: Amazing! So, big question, do you prefer the film or the west end production?

Georgie: Obviously the singing and everything is amazing in the west end, but I do prefer the movie and you connect to the characters so much.

Amira: Ooh, controversial! Thank you very much, Georgie!

STAFF PROFILES – Mr Kashan Malik

By Mrs Armitage, PA to Executive Principal



This week we welcome Mr Kashan Malik to Bushey Meads School who joins us from St Joan of Arc as Assistant Pastoral Manager, a new and additional role to our pastoral team. Mr Malik told me how he has known Bushey Meads as a school with a reputation for nurturing and caring for its students, and putting the students first - this is what attracted him to apply for the post. He commented on how welcoming both the staff and students have been since he joined at the beginning of the month, and says he already feels very much a part of the Bushey Meads community.

To get an idea of Mr Malik beyond his role here at Bushey Meads, he says he enjoys gardening and reading as well as listening to music, and particularly enjoys the opportunity to see up and coming bands performing.

Let's wish Mr Malik every success in contributing to the continuing progress of Bushey Meads School.

Youth Parliament for Hertsmere elections

Leon, 9B

Dear students and staff of Bushey Meads,

My name is Leon, I am in year nine, and this month I am running to become the Member of Youth Parliament for Hertsmere. I am writing to ask for your support in the upcoming elections, where I am hoping to be elected as your representative.

If elected, I would have the opportunity to represent the young people in our area by putting forward the views and concerns of young people in Hertsmere. My manifesto already includes some key issues that affect students like bullying in schools and improving the quality of transport in the area while lowering prices. These are just two issues which I would hope to change.

Representing my school through my candidacy is a great honour to me, and it would be a privilege to represent the youth of this area, hopefully making change for the better. If you are a student, vote for me when voting opens on Monday 26th January, and before ending on Friday 13th February.

Many thanks for your support in advance, it is greatly appreciated! If you have any queries or want more information, feel free to contact me.



Holocaust Memorial Event 2015

By Sara Ash, Assistant Headteacher KS5



On the 27th January every year there are events to mark the liberation of Auschwitz concentration camp in 1945. Now the day also remembers the victims of other genocides globally. The Mayor of Hertsmere held an event in Bushey this year and our Head Boy and Girl, Jamie and Sophia, represented the school at this important event. They took part in a candlelit parade down Bushey High Street followed by a presentation and performances marking the occasion. It was a moving and thought provoking evening for all.



Debating Society: January 2015 news

By Elaine Pinkus, Business teacher

January 21st 2015 saw the return of the school debating society with the controversial topic: This House would ban all homework - a topic close to the hearts of so many. Proposing this motion were year 12 Kevin and year 8 Ryan, who offered interesting information on the progressive system in Finland, where there is no homework but which manages to achieve positive results. Both put forward the importance of relaxed time where students can develop as individuals, learning skills in sports, music, drama and own interests.

Opposing the motion were year 12 Elodie, supported by year 8 Marvin. Their argument focused strongly on the importance of complementing the knowledge gained during the day with independent research and development of technique. This would not be to the detriment of personal development as, with organisation, students could enjoy sport and other activities after the completion of homework. Not only that, but how else could teachers assess the progress made by their students if not through independent work?

The audience challenged the two sides and chairperson, year 12 Sam, did an admirable job of ensuring that all had a say in this exciting topic. The final vote was in favour of the motion and it would seem that Bushey Meads students favoured the Finnish model. Well done to all speakers and thank you for an enjoyable debate. We look forward to the next.

Whilst writing, I am delighted to announce the start of a Junior Debating Team led by Ryan, year 7. The meetings for this group will be on a Thursday and their first debate will be centred around the topic of Valentine's Day. All are invited to attend this on Wednesday January 11th 2015 at 1.30 pm in H2.

Note from Attendance Officer - Years 7-11

Dear Parent/Carer,

Please can you remind your child of the following signing IN and OUT procedure, and provide them with an authorisation note covering the appointment.

Signing In Arrive during form - go straight to form
Arrive period one - five - sign in at the Key Stage Four Office and then attend lesson.

Signing Out - Any time of Day Sign out at the Key Stage Four Office before you go to Student Reception.

It is Imperative Students sign in and out, for our Fire/Health and safety regulations, we must always be aware who is on site. Students must also have an authorisation note covering any absence, and this must be passed to attendance in KS4.

Direct contact details for: Mrs Denton – Attendance Tel no: 0208 955 8863 Groupcall Text no: 447860030588
Email: dentonp@busheymeads.org.uk

Thank you for your co-operation.

Bushey Meads School

February 9th - 12th 2015

All performances start at 7:00pm

Bushey Meads School
Coldharbour Lane
Bushey
Herts
WD23 4PA

0208 950 3000



Students £4.00

Adults £8.00

Tickets available now

Les Misérables

School's edition