



Zac, along with his sister and brother raises £1058 for Comic Relief



The school fun run took place on Friday 20th March, but this student has already gone the extra mile.

Zak (7Ash), along with his sister Isabel and brother Raf, decided on raising money by doing another challenge. Isabel and Raf walked to school backwards to represent the difficulties of those living in poverty. Zak walked to school with a bucket of water on his head, as many communities do on a daily basis to access water. Each walk consisted of 2.4 miles.



Last year they raised £400 but his goal for this time was £500, a goal which he achieved and doubled. An impressive total of £1058.00 has been raised.

This was a fantastic achievement and yet another example of Zak's willingness and determination to leave a mark at Bushey Meads School.

By Mr S Hawkins, P.E Teacher

Dates for the diary

23 March

Y10 MFL Speaking Exams

Y7-9 House Music Rehearsals

24 March

Y10 Immunisations

Y7-13 House Music Rehearsals

Y12 Drama Mock Performance

25 March

Y9 Options Evening

Y10 Immunisations

Y10 GCSE Controlled Assessments
Global School Leadership

26 March

Whole school Enrichment Day
House Music Competition

27 March

Y10 Fire Skills Course Session 7

2 April – Term ends 12.30

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

KEY STAGE 4



Catherine - 10 Elm

Catherine is this week's KS4 student of the week. Catherine recently received an outstanding Spring term assessment report in which she scored an amazing seven 7s for her attitude to learning. Catherine also has a 100% attendance record since the beginning of the school year. Catherine aspires to become a Dentist and will be using the upcoming work shadowing event to gain some valuable experience at the Practice on the green in Bushey.

KEY STAGE 5



Emily - 12Maple

Our KS5 student of the week this week is Emily who is currently in Year 12. She has been awarded this for her excellent effort in all her lessons and for assisting the Year 11 students during the Reach for the Stars programme. Emily is currently studying Biology, Chemistry, Drama and Mathematics.

WORLD BOOK DAY 2015

By Mrs Castle, Librarian

World Book Day was on 5th March and all our students received a £1 book token. They can use this until 29th March either to exchange for a special World Book Day book, or to use when buying a book of their own choice.

In the library we celebrated World Book Day by having a second hand book sale. Staff and students brought in books they had finished with and together with some withdrawn library books we had quite a collection to sell. All books were sold for 10p and we made an amazing £37.50, which the school has kindly doubled.

So we are delighted to be sending a cheque for £75 to Book Aid International. This charity provides books to some of the world's poorest countries to support libraries in schools, refugee camps and isolated communities, helping to change lives.

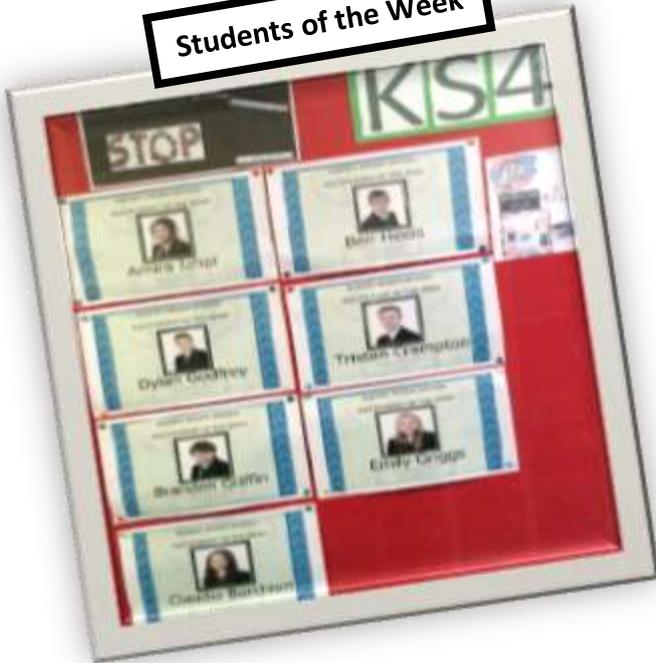
Student Librarians, Ben - 8B & Fatima - 9M with our cheque



New Display Boards

By Mr Turner, Executive Principal

Students of the Week

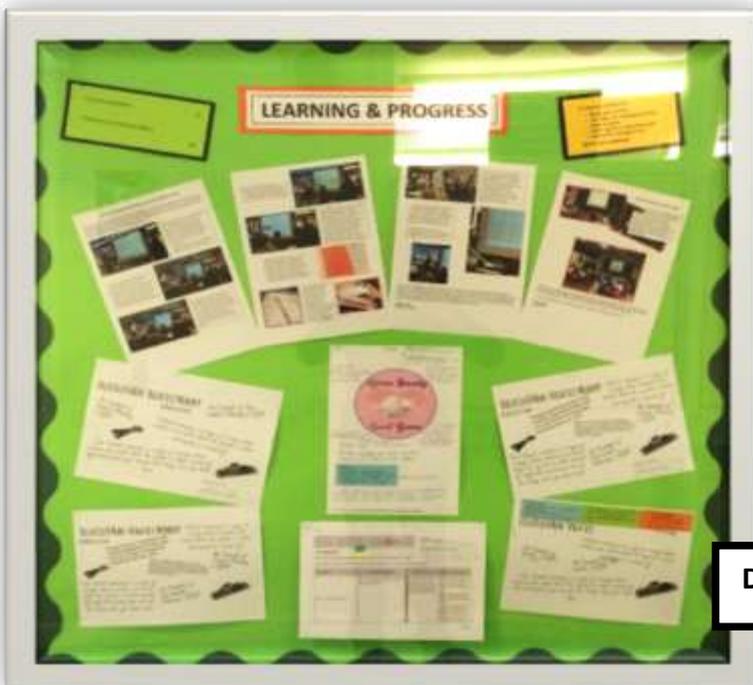


High Achiever Awards



Many students, staff and visitors to our school have commented favourably about our numerous new display boards situated all around our school community that celebrate so much good news and superb student achievement. Here is a small selection of just some of them.

Display to promote current affairs and reading



Display to promote teaching and learning

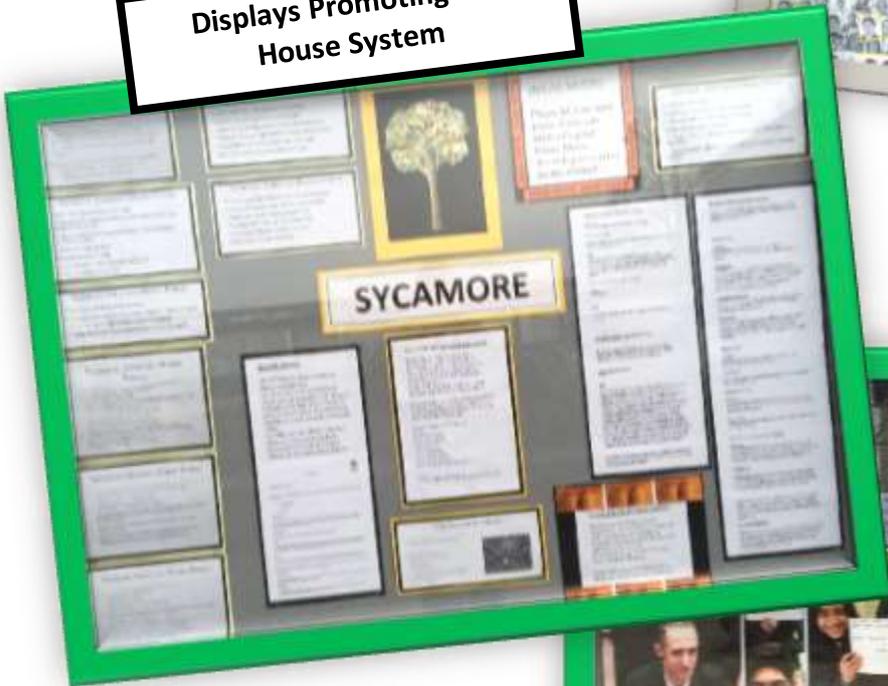
Displays Celebrating Special Subject Awards



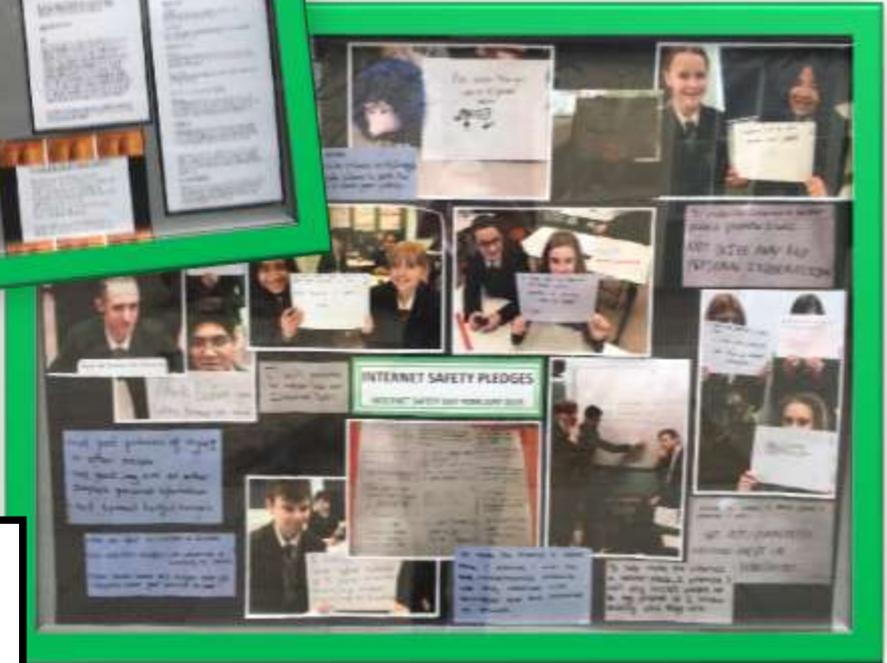
Displays emphasising the Theme of the Week



Displays Promoting our House System



Displays to Support eSafety and BMS Student Voice



Introducing the St James Instrumental Development Programme

Learn to play an instrument for free at Bushey Meads School!

By Ms Brown, Music Teacher

- **What is the Instrumental Development Scheme?**

The Instrumental Development Scheme is a special project for budding classical or jazz musicians. At Bushey Meads, we believe that everyone has the potential to be a fantastic musician! All you need is commitment, enthusiasm and dedication. This programme gives all of our students the opportunity to learn an instrument for free and take part in an orchestra or jazz band.

- **What sorts of activities will I take part in?**

You will attend a weekly instrumental lesson with Miss Brown who will teach you how to play your instrument. You will also attend a weekly orchestra or jazz band so that you experience how fun it is to play music with others.

- **Which instrument can I choose?**

You can choose from the following instruments; flute, clarinet, saxophone, oboe, bassoon, trumpet, French horn, trombone, tuba, violin, viola, cello or double bass. We will provide you with the instrument for free!



- **How do I take part in the instrumental development scheme?**

It's easy to take part! Send an e-mail to Miss Brown: (browns@busheymeads.org.uk) with a short paragraph explaining why you'd like to join the programme. For example, you might just love music! Or you might have played an instrument like recorder at primary school and want to move on to an instrument like clarinet. You may have taken some lessons in the past but didn't like the instrument and now you want to try something new.



Music Clubs at Bushey Meads School



Monday lunch	Barber Shop	Monday After School	
Tuesday lunch	Strings Group	Tuesday After School	Senior Choir (Yr9 and above)
Wednesday lunch	Instrumental Development Programme	Wednesday After School	
Thursday lunch	Orchestra	Thursday After School	Junior Choir (Yr 7/8)

National final of the F1 in Schools competition - Year 7 Dark Rebels



By Mr Chalkley, Head of Design & Technology

The year 7 Dark Rebels team from Bushey Meads, travelled to Birmingham NEC on Wednesday to enter the National final of the F1 in Schools competition. After an exciting time at the regionals, the team ably led by Arash, had worked tirelessly to prepare the cars and presentations.

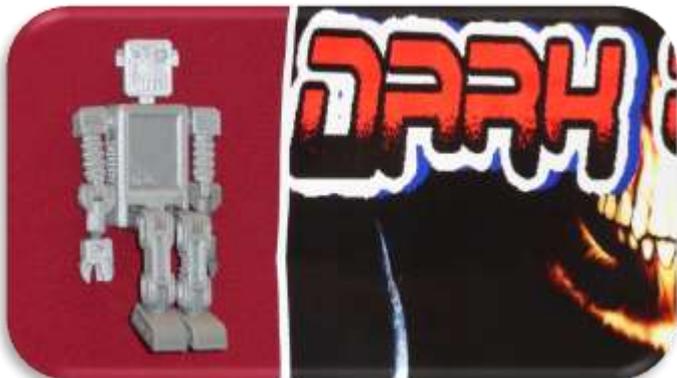


The design team of Pallav and Avon had made significant improvements to the aerodynamics of the car and were supported by the resources and marketing specialists of Ethan, George and Kenneth.

The car performed well on the day, travelling the 25m track in 1.4secs, but this would not be enough to secure a place on the winner's podium. Although the boys were disappointed with the result, they are

already keen to develop an improved car for competing in 2016. That's an impressive growth mind-set by any standards!

Congratulations to the boys for all their efforts over the past few months. The STEM club will be back in May.



Year 9 Options

By Mrs McIldowie, Head of Work Related Learning

In order to support our Year 9 students in making the best option choices for themselves they are currently receiving advice and guidance throughout their CHOICE lessons. All students have to think about the subjects they are good at and also what skills they need to move in to 6th form, college or an apprenticeship in the future.

The school have purchased an online publication which we are making available to all students and parents called 'Which Way Now' - click on the link to access.

<http://goo.gl/XATCF2>

I have been into all the lessons and spoken to our students about their choices and offered them the opportunity of a one to one meeting with either myself and my colleagues or a Connexions Advisor. If any parent feels that their child would benefit from this and the child has not yet had a meeting please call me and I will be happy to set one up.

I will also be available at the Options evening on Wednesday 25th March.

Les Misérables

The BuMPA Awards

By Mr Cox – Cover Supervisor

Last week we held the 'Bushey Meads Performing Arts Awards' (better known as the 'BuMPA Awards'). The ceremony took place after school on Thursday 12th March and was attended by the cast and crew of our recent school production 'Les Miserables'.

The categories ranged from the 'Rising Star' award for new emerging talent to the 'Teacher's Choice' award for perseverance and dedication. Everyone involved was acknowledged for their individual contribution to the production and in some cases managed to scoop up 2 or 3 separate awards!



The cast gathered round as Mr. Cox presented the awards.



Sam,, Lee, Akbar and Jack were among those who scooped up an awards certificate in these categories.

Students were commended for their level of commitment as well as their performing ability. Some of the actors even had to overcome personal obstacles in order to give the best performance possible. A few of the students were recognised for their exceptional contributions to the production as a whole and as a result, walked away with the 'Above & Beyond' award.



The cast show of their award certificates.

The final categories of the afternoon were the 'voted for' categories in which all the cast and crew were able to choose their favourite performers. Over the last 3 weeks the votes have been pouring in and the victors began to emerge. The categories included:

- Best Male Actor In A Lead Role
- Best Female Actor In A Lead Role
- Best Male Actor In A Supporting Role
- Best Female Actor In a Supporting Role
- Best Male Singer In A Lead Role
- Best Female Singer In A Lead Role
- Best Male Singer In A Supporting Role
- Best Female Singer In A Supporting Role
- Standout Ensemble Performer (Male)
- Standout Ensemble Performer (Female)
- Best Overall Performer

The award statuettes were made from pieces of the Barricade that acted as an important part of the set for the production. This gave the winning performers a lasting personal memento from the show itself as well as a trophy that they could be proud of.



The winners consisted of some of the most focused and talented performers within the school and they were all clearly pleased to walk away with their respective awards. The winning performers were as follows:



'Best Female Singer in A Lead Role'
Saskia



'Best Male Actor in A Supporting Role'
&
'Best Male Singer in a Supporting Role'
William



'Best Female Actor In A Lead Role'
Hannah (left)
'Best Female Actor in a Supporting Role' &
'Best Female Singer In A Supporting Role'
Megan (right)



Joint winners of
'Standout Ensemble Performer (Female)'
Beth & Lily



The big winner of the afternoon was Mr James Roberts who scooped up 'Best Male Actor in a Lead Role', 'Best Male Singer in A Lead Role' & the coveted 'Best Overall Performer' awards respectively.



'Standout Ensemble Performer (Male)'
Joey Cox

A very big well done to all the cast and crew, what a brilliant experience it has been to be a part of it. I have thoroughly enjoyed directing my first show here at the school and I am very proud of you all. I could not have done any of it though without the support and unrivalled expertise of all the students, staff and parents involved.

Roll on next year!

Bushey Meads students win 2 out of 3 1st place trophies

By Mr Joueid – Design & Technology Teacher



A group of year 9 and 10 students travelled to Bushey Academy on Thursday to compete in the rotary problem solving challenge. They competed at three different levels (foundation, intermediate and advanced) against 6 other schools from within the borough. Teams had to use the materials that they were given to test their problem solving skills. This required students to work as a team to produce a technically challenging mechanical product.

Each team member contributed to the success of the team and each team was able to develop a working solution.

The competition was intense and each group tried to outdo the other. Our advanced team found it particularly challenging as they had to compete against some sixth form teams. But all their hard work paid off after winning 2 of the 3 competitions.



Well done to all those who took part.



Junior Debating Society

By Mrs Pinkus: Business Studies teacher



This week's debate: This House Would Support the Death Penalty



Wednesday 11 March 2015, the Junior Debating Team took to the stage and argued the topic that has been discussed for so many years in parliament and by the government. This House Would Support the Death Penalty is a contentious issue and was bound to raise emotions. And indeed it did!

Gallantly opposing the motion was Matthew (year 7) who argued that there are mistakes made in giving the death penalty and that it surely it does not make our society better to behave in such a way. He argued that it would be more appropriate to imprison and reform those who had committed murder. Opposing him were Marvin (year 7) who stressed the importance of an ultimate deterrent and used examples in Australia and the US to emphasise this. There must be a fear of consequence and the death penalty would enforce that fear and reduce the number of murders in the UK. Fellow year 7 students Dinujha and Rajvidya joined in the debate with passion and force, but after the questions from the floor the meeting ended with the majority vote opposing the motion.

This House would NOT support the death penalty. Well done to all those who participated and a particular congratulations to Matthew.

If you would like to join the Junior Debating Society, meetings are on a Thursday in room H4, beginning at 1.30 pm. Please come and join this exciting society.



European Youth Parliament UK South East forum

By Mrs Pinkus – Debating Society



Friday 13 March 2015, a busy date on the calendar on which Red Nose day was celebrated, Memorial Day was held at St Pauls Cathedral to honour Britain's heroes in Afghanistan and the end of the conflict there, and the EYP UK regional challenge which took place at the European Commission, Westminster.

In preparation for this event, our students, (members of the Senior Debating Society), were allocated the role of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs. They were presented with a motion for a resolution given by the Committee on Human Rights who alluded to the drastic human rights violations, massacres and forced displacements occurring in Iraq and Syria at the hands of the so-called Islamic State and asked what role the EU and its Member States should take to protect and assist the victims of IS. Our role was to attack the resolution with reasons to suggest that the proposals were unviable. Pleasingly the vote was in our favour, despite the strong pleas of those proposing the resolution.

Other subjects argued that day were the issues of financial education in the UK, the abhorrent practice of FGM (female genital mutilation), the topic of small and medium enterprise finance and a final debate held entirely in French advocating the participation of citizens in European politics. Students were encouraged to speak entirely in French and at some point could offer their views in a different language. There were offerings in Urdu, Arabic, Russian, Chinese, Italian and Spanish. A fun filled session and one in which our students performed admirably.

This was a fantastic opportunity to share views on the various resolutions with students from the South East region and the jury held that all teams were splendid. We were especially proud of our delegates, namely year 11 Lucy and Deborah, together with year 12 students Sam, Kaviniya, Dylan, Elodie, Aliya, Kevin and group trainer year 12 Sherkan. Well done to the group for their research, their participation and their commitment to this event.

Practical Life Skills Programme raises money for Nick Cruwys Fund

By Mrs Mateides, Intervention Manager

Bushey Meads School is always looking for innovative ideas for the students who take alternative provision. In year 11, boys who attended college one day a week were also given the opportunity to take part in a Practical Life Skills Course run by Mrs Mateides with the assistance of Mr Ashcroft.

The students were involved in a number of schemes including Wednesday's Small Business Venture. The boys involved made biscuits and sold them during break time. They then decided that all proceeds, £35.00, would go to the Nick Cruwys Fund, the Watford supporter that was seriously hurt in Wolverhampton, as they wanted to support a local fundraiser.



The year 11's have also been involved in Community service projects, where they helped to clear up rubbish from the perimeter of the school last summer. They also cooked a buffet meal and presented to staff, during a lunchtime.

Students were able to cover many essential skills during their time on the course. These included: **Emotional Resilience**, teaching students how to cope with stress, manage their studies, boost negotiation skills and become more assertive.

Social Communication, including verbal/non verbal, conversation, all helping to attain the best skills for future interviews for colleges. **Practical domestic lessons**, to prepare students for 'real life' situations, such as wiring plugs, repairs, filling in a driving licence and college applications. **Protecting self and others**, being aware of environmental and social dangers. **Conflict Resolution**, to enable the student to solve everyday issues within safe parameters. **Gardening**, developing garden areas within the school.

As all coursework was recorded, there were many opportunities for students to improve numeracy and literacy skills.



Boys completing the programme this year: Branden Griffin, Rickie Jones and Aaron Cheek

Inter House Sports Competitions

By Mr Cartledge, Head of P.E.

The PE and Health Faculty have been running a number of Inter House sports competitions in recent weeks. These are an excellent opportunity for more students to get involved in competitive sport and also enable students to play an active role in the House system in the school.

The **Year 8 Inter House Boys 5-a-side Football** took place on Tuesday 10th March with all Houses represented and over 50 boys taking part. The tournament was played in a friendly yet competitive atmosphere with 21 matches of 5-a-side football taking place. Overall winners were eventually 8ASH who won 6 games out of 6.

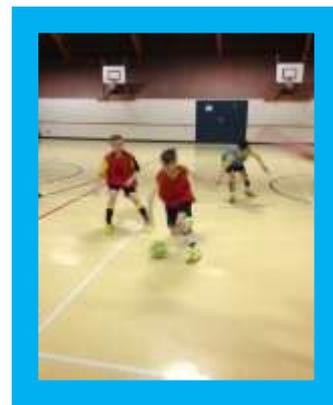
The winning 8ASH squad were :

Connor Cameron, Ethan Fiordelisi, Ben Faulkner, Kabilan Nanthasuthan, Thuvaragan Sritharan and Jack Leech.

Overall final positions :

1. 8ASH – 21 points
2. 8WILLOW – 15 points
3. 8OAK – 12 points
4. 8SYCAMORE – 9 points
5. 8ELM – 4 points
6. 8MAPLE – 3 points
7. 8BEECH – 1 point

Well done to all those that took part.



The **Year 8 Inter House Netball** took place on Monday 16th March. Sadly not all houses were represented but the students who participated displayed a high level of skill and most of all enthusiasm. The final results were:

1. Willow - 14 points
2. Beech - 12 points
3. Sycamore - 8 points
4. Ash - 7 points
5. Maple - 6 points

Special thanks to Yr9 Student Layla Campbell for assisting with the officiating

The **Year 7 Inter House 5-a-side football** took place on Monday 16th March. Over 50 boys and girls represented their houses in 21 matches with the eventual winners being Beech house.

The winning 7BEECH squad was: Jamie Alexander, Jake Watt, Owen O'Mahony, Kieran Barnard-White, Harrison Middleton and Vedant Christian.

1.

2. 7BEECH - 14 points
3. 7SYCAMORE - 13 points
4. MAPLE - 10 points
5. OAK - 8 points
6. ASH - 7 points
7. WILLOW - 4 points
8. ELM - 1 point

Well done to all those who took part.



National Apprenticeship Week 2015 (9–13 March)

By Diana McIldowie – Head of Work Related Learning

The overarching theme for National Apprenticeship Week 2015 is a challenge to us all to think about how much we really know about apprenticeships. It's about using facts and powerful case studies to prove that apprentices are great for business, personal careers, and can create opportunities for employers and apprentices.

At Bushey Meads we were delighted to be able to run events throughout the week to enable our students to gain a better understanding of apprenticeships.

On Monday we had the Apprenticeship Bus come onto the site which gave students from year 8 to 13 the opportunity to find out about different types of apprenticeships run by one of our local higher education providers - West Herts College. The staff explained to students how apprenticeships work and what they involve.



On Friday 3aaa an outstanding provider of apprenticeships came in and spoke to a selection of 6th form students about opportunities in Financial Services, Accounting, Digital Marketing, IT and Business Administration.

Students were intrigued to find out about the alternatives to University and the opportunities from businesses to support them through the next stage of their life whilst paying them a salary in addition to covering the costs for their qualifications.

You can watch videos of real apprentices telling their stories at www.apprenticeships.gov.uk.

To search online for an apprenticeship visit www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship and click 'start now'.

Follow the apprenticeships vacancies Twitter feed @AppVacancies and download the AV search app on your smartphone.

In order to help you take the right steps towards a better future, you can also search online for National Careers Service or call Freephone 0800 100 900.

Any student who would like more information regarding apprenticeships should contact Mrs McIldowie for an appointment.



Gym Competition 2015

By Mrs Cartledge, P.E. teacher

Last Friday 16 girls ranging from years 7-11 took part in the Watford school gymnastics championships at the newly opened Dolphina Centre. The competition was divided into two levels (1+2). Level 1 was a competition for the gymnast who has not trained at a club and the level 2 competition was for the more experienced gymnast with more formal training.

Some of the schools attending were Haberdasher's, Royal Masonic and Watford Girls, strong opposition! In the morning the level 1 girls competed in both floor and vault. All competitors had two attempts at the vault which had to be a through or straddle vault or jumping on and performing a tuck or straddle off. The two highest scores on the vault from Bushey meads were Bella Parker and Lily Scourfield with a score of 11.10. The girls moved onto the floor to perform their individual choreographed routines to music. The girls managed to control their nerves and all performed with elegance, control and good technique. The highest scores from Bushey Meads on the floor were Riya Kulkarnii with an impressive score of 9.5 and Megan Sjollema with 8.6.

In the afternoon it was the turn of the level 2 girls. They also began on Vault and this time the difficulty increased and the girls had to demonstrate a handspring off the vault. A complex move for the girls. All girls showed attack and power off the box top. The highest score for Bushey Meads was Scarlett Cloona with a fantastic 11.6 followed by Charley Stewart and Gracie Hill with 11.4. The floor followed and again the girls managed to perform with confidence, artistry and strength. The top scores on floor were Charley Stewart with a fantastic 11.8 and Gracie Hill with 11.5

Here are the teams with their overall positions. Team 1 achieved a fantastic position of second .

Team 1 (Level 2) Overall position – 2nd

Gracie Hill

Charley Stewart

Anouska Barrett

Scarlett Cloona

Team 2 (level 2) – Overall position 4th

Anna Finlay

Nicole Redman

Sophie Melsome

Sky Wright- Hobson

Team 1 (level 1)- Overall position- 4th

Olivia O,Connor

Bella Parker

Leona Sedman

Lily Scourfield

Team 2 (Level 1) – Overall position- Joint 5th

Francesca Kelly

Alice Moss

Megan Sjollema

Riya Kulkarni

Special Mentions

During the presentation two special awards for Artistry in the floor routines were awarded from all the competitors. Anouska Barrett was presented with one of these awards for her floor routine which is a fantastic achievement.

Charley Stewart scored the second best score on the floor and the third best score overall. The top score coming from a national gymnast!

The Level 2 team were only 1.4 marks away from the winning team!

Thanks to Mrs Maloney for her help at the competition.

Finally a massive thanks to all the girls for their commitment to this competition. They have put in endless hours of practice at lunch and after-school. Their behaviour was superb on the day and they should be very proud of their achievement



**Well Done
Girls!**




Bushey Meads School
House Music Competition 2015

 Thursday 26th March
 7 p.m.
 School Hall
 £2 Adults £1 Concessions
May the best House win!