

Two Exemplary BMS Students Receive an Executive Principal's Award

Our new rewards and consequences system has been launched this term and is providing a more consistent approach across the school to recognising students' achievement across all areas. There are now many different layers of rewards available for students to work towards and this week it was a great privilege to award two students (Zac in 7 Ash and Isabel in 9 Sycamore) one of the highest accolades in our important Main School Assemblies this week – an R8 or Executive Principal's Award.

You will recall I'm sure their amazing fund raising efforts on the day of our school fun run. As a reminder, Zak, along with his sister Isabel and younger brother Raf, decided on raising money by doing another challenge on the day. Isabel and Raf walked to school backwards to represent the difficulties of those living in poverty and Zac (pictured here) walked to school with a bucket of water on his head, as many communities do on a daily basis to access water and between them raised an impressive total of **over £1000**.



As this is such a fantastic achievement the two Bushey Meads students thoroughly deserve the Executive Principal's Award which recognises their exceptional performance and service to the school/community.

They both receive a special silver-lined certificate, 30 achievement points, a rewards token and a letter home to their parents. Well done indeed!

Jeremy Turner, Executive Principal

Aspire to Achieve



Dates for the diary

11 May

GCSE and A Level Exams

Y8 Trip to Northern France

Y8 and 10 Herts County Athletics

12 May

**Y12 Drama Tech & Dress rehearsals
and Exam Performance**

15 May

Y10 Fire Skills course Session 9

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

KEY STAGE 3



Prince - 7 Sycamore.

This week's student of the week is Prince, who has been nominated by Miss Troon, his form tutor, because of his recent participation in the House Music concert in which he performed incredibly well. Since he started at Bushey Meads School, Prince has fully engaged with a number of extra-curricular activities including House football, netball and is also one of our Student Learning Consultants. Prince's commitment to the school is unquestionable and we are very proud of what he has achieved so far in such a short space of time. Well done Prince!



Heather - 11 Maple

Lily - 11 Beech

Natalya - 11 Elm

Heather, Lily and Natalya are this week's KS4 students of the week. They have been busy working together organising the Year 11 leaver's hoodies in their own time. The response has been positive and all the students are looking forward to receiving their own personalised hoodies to celebrate their time here at Bushey Meads School.

KEY STAGE 5



Chloe - 13 Elm

The Key Stage 5 student of the week is Chloe. She has been chosen for her outstanding attitude to learning and achievement. Chloe hopes to study medicine at university and is currently studying Biology, Chemistry and Psychology.

Theme of the Week – A Bully-Free Zone

Lee Arnold, Assistant Headteacher

The theme of the week has been "relationships". Bushey Meads School prides itself on the excellent relationships that exist between all students, parents, staff, and governors. We can be justifiably proud of the community we are building that will lead to improved outcomes for our students.

Thankfully, incidents that damage the well-being of students, such as bullying, are very rare indeed. Mr Arnold raised students' awareness of bullying in a series of assemblies across the week where students were encouraged to reflect on what constitutes bullying - repeated spiteful actions that are often intended to hurt emotionally and physically.

A group of Year 10 Drama students - Joely, Armani, Ella, Eleanor and Meesha - acted out scenes that brought this issue to life before Ms Clayton and Ms Day, the anti-bullying coordinators, highlighted some of the ways students can deal with bullying.

Above all, students are encouraged to report any incidents of bullying to any member of staff or the anti-bullying coordinators and can also use the online "Student Watch" area of the school's website.



Year Group Photographs

Year 7, 11 and 13 Group Photographs are available to order from the school.

Year 7 and 11 Photographs are displayed opposite Room H2 and the Year 13 Photograph is in the 6th Form Study Centre.

If you would like to order a copy please pick up an order form from:

KS3 Office - Year 7 or 11

KS5 Office - Year 13

All orders must be returned to the school by Monday 18th May. Thank you.

BMS Student Performs at the Prestigious Royal Albert Hall

Jeremy Turner, Executive Principal

On Thursday 23rd April 2015, 1500 children and young people and the English Pocket Opera Company took part in a gala music concert commemorating the birthdays of William Shakespeare and St. George at the Royal Albert Hall.

The first half of the concert was based on music related to St. George's Day and included music from the film 'How to Train Your Dragon' and 'George and the Dragon'; the second half contained music from Romeo and Juliet and excerpts such as 'Mambo' from West Side Story.



Kajal Dodhia in 10 Beech represented Bushey Meads School at this prestigious event. As a dedicated musician she has attended the Hendon Music Centre and Barnet Youth Wind Orchestra (where she plays the flute) as part of an extracurricular activity. Since November 2014 the orchestra, along with other musical groups, have been engaged in rehearsals culminating in a final dress rehearsal at the Royal Albert Hall.



Kajal said...

"It was a great opportunity to perform at the Royal Albert Hall for the second time. Five years ago I had the opportunity to play at the Royal Albert Hall at the 'One Voice' concert where we played music from the well-known opera Carmen."

"The whole experience of performing at this amazing venue has been magnificent and exciting, especially to perform in harmony with several other orchestras, choirs and also to be accompanying the opera singers. I would love to have this experience again!"



BMS Study Saturday's

Jeremy Turner, Executive Principal

It was really encouraging to see so many students at the first ever Study Saturday for Year 11 students at Bushey Meads.

Some students arrived from 9.15 am in the morning (even though the general GCSE revision and study session didn't start officially until 9.30 am) and all the students who attended worked in small groups or on their own on a revision topic of their choice. Students made revision cards and mind maps, completed past papers and tested each other out with their knowledge as they used the time effectively to maximise their success in the forthcoming examinations.



The Study Saturday was held in the superb Sixth Form Study Centre which gave the hard working students access to the complimentary hot drinks machines to sustain their learning throughout the morning.



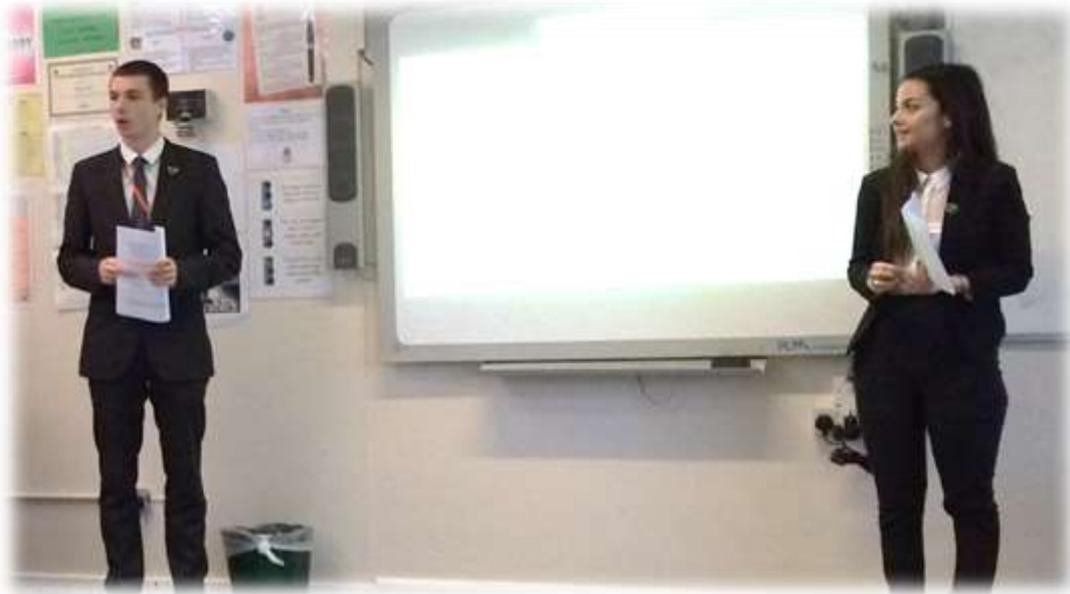
If you perhaps struggle to work at home, find it a bit difficult to focus and maybe need or prefer the encouragement of other like-minded students working alongside you and/or want access to high speed broadband, PCs and Chrome Books then come to the following Study Saturdays over the next few weeks in the run up to the GCSE examinations.



Final Full Governors' Meeting of the Year

Jeremy Turner, Executive Principal

On Wednesday evening last week our final Full Governors' Meeting of the year was held. I would like to thank all our hard working governors for their major contributions in supporting the strategic direction of the the school throughout the year. Head Boy Jamie and Head Girl Sophia presented their Student Parliament update and, as usual, there was a lively discussion and lots of questions asked by Governors about the latest developments at the school.



Under their outstanding leadership the governors recognised that student voice and student leadership has been the strongest that it has ever been and students at the school are really involved in shaping and leading the direction of the school in a number of key areas.



In recognition of their outstanding contribution to the school community, at the end of their presentation, Chair of Governors Di Hoeksma presented them both with a Chair of Governors' Award – an R8 Award and the highest award any students can achieve under our new Rewards System recently introduced at the school. They also received a very nice souvenir pen as a small thank you for their superb leadership.

House Music 2015

Jeremy Turner, Executive Principal



The first ever House Music Event at BMS was a huge success and saw each house in our school demonstrate some superb talent in the junior and senior competitions also and showcase their House Choir.

All the performances were well rehearsed and really appreciated by the supportive and encouraging audience who were clearly impressed with the quality of what they heard.



It was lovely to see the older students in each house working alongside students from the younger year groups in the school and this aspect of the House system at BMS is really strengthening our already strong family atmosphere.

The songs performed were all chosen really carefully by each House and together provided a real variety of musical styles on show throughout the evening.



I would like to thank and congratulate all the students involved, especially the sixth form students and all the dedicated and enthusiastic Heads of House at BMS.

It was a great evening!

It is always great to receive positive feedback and thanks for everything that we are doing at BMS to support all students with their achievements and personal development.

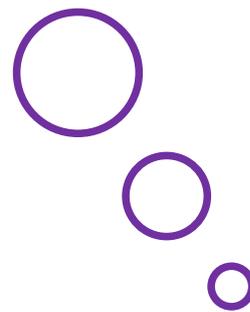
Here are just a couple of recent messages received at the school.

Thank you!

Dear Mr Turner, I would like to say thank you and show our appreciation for the teachers who are running the revision sessions for students studying for exams. My son has been to law and psychology and finds these sessions so useful. Thanks to them for giving their valuable time during the holidays.



I just wanted to take the time out to congratulate you and your team on all the hard work guidance and support you have given to the Drama GCSE students over the past two years and beyond. I know you especially put in hours of your spare time to support the students in the run up to their exams. Thank you doesn't quite seem enough so I am assuming that their results will speak for your mammoth efforts. All performances were so moving and the subject matters for such young people were tackled with maturity and compassion. They bought tears to my eyes - both with heavy emotion and laughter. They all did you proud.



GCSE PE Cornwall Trip 2015

By Mr Cartledge – Head of PE Faculty and Mrs Cooper – PE Teacher



On Friday 24th April, 24 Year 10 GCSE PE students set off for the annual Outdoor Adventure trip to Widemouth Bay in Cornwall.

There was a mixture of excitement and trepidation amongst the group as the minibuses set off at 7.00 in the morning. After a long but good journey, it was straight into action with afternoon classes in kayaking and rock climbing

led by the excellent centre instructors.



The group soon got to grips with the activity challenges and then finished the day with a climbing masterclass and coastal walk. Over the course of the weekend the

students completed further sessions in both activities culminating in assessment day on Sunday where the students demonstrated the new skills they had learnt over the weekend. All the students completed an indoor climbing challenge including abseiling and then completed an outdoor cliff climb. In addition the students learnt the various paddle strokes and completed capsize and rescue drills in the kayaks.



On Monday morning the group were rewarded with a surfing session which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The tired and weary group left for home on Monday lunchtime having conquered some personal challenges and learnt some new skills. The centre staff were really impressed by the group and commended them for their attitude, behaviour and ability. This was certainly supported by the PE staff who

would like to say a massive well done to the group for their excellent behaviour throughout the weekend. Well done all and we look forward to next year's trip.



County League Athletics - Match 1

Tues 28th April 2015

By Mr Cartledge – Head of PE Faculty

Last Tuesday 28th April saw the first County League athletics match of the season at Woodside Stadium. The League consists of 6 fixtures against the other 25 schools in our region of the Herts County League. The first match saw the teams competing with Habs Boys and Girls, St Joan of Arc, Rickmansworth and Bushey Academy schools. It was a tough first match but the students acquitted themselves very well with some excellent individual performances. Special mention to the Senior Boys team who came 2nd in the match with 47 points. The Junior Boys, Junior Girls and Senior Girls all came a very promising 3rd position. We had 2 individual winners on the evening with victories for Thanujan Tharmakulasingam in the Junior Boys Long Jump and Kaitlyn Williams in the Junior Girls Discus. Well done to all those who took part and we look forward to following their progress over the season.



Commended performances:

JUNIOR GIRLS

Team score - 29 points - 3rd
Kaitlyn Williams - 1st Discus
Lauren Bayliss - 3rd 1500m
Megan Sjollema - 2nd Long Jump
Emily Houghton-Brown - 2nd Shot
Bella Parker - 3rd Javelin

SENIOR GIRLS

Team score - 38 points - 3rd
Vicki Pratt - 3rd Hurdles
Abby Gerry - 2nd 100m and 2nd Shot
Rezwana Bharmal - 3rd 200m
Myah Sharif - 2nd 300m and 3rd triple Jump
Olivia McManus - 3rd 800m
Frances Talbot - 2nd High Jump
Tanya Vardin - 3rd Long Jump

JUNIOR BOYS

Team score - 40 points - 3rd
Thanujan Tharmakulasingam 1st
Long Jump / 2nd Hurdles
Conner Cameron - 3rd 100m
Aodan Angold - 2nd Pole Vault
Joel Smith - 2nd High Jump
Charlie Lyall - 2nd Javelin
Relay 3rd

SENIOR BOYS

Team score - 47 points - 2nd
Andrew Powell - 3rd Hurdles
Andrew Fordham - 2nd 200m and 3rd
Long Jump
Lyes Titouah - 2nd 400m
Leon Nyoro - 2nd 800m
Harry Eagell - 3rd 1500m
Alex Barrett - 2nd Pole Vault
Sam Baker - 2nd High Jump
Ryle Bumagat - 3rd Shot
Michael Lawman - 3rd Discus
Lewis Dobson - 2nd Javelin
Relay - 2nd

The other matches are on the following dates :

MATCH 2 : Wednesday May 6th 2015
Venue – ST ALBANS ATHLETICS TRACK

MATCH 3 : Monday May 11th 20145
Venue – WOODSIDE ATHLETICS TRACK
(Note : BMS school will be hosting this event)

MATCH 4 : Wednesday June 3RD 2015
Venue – JARMONS PARK ATHLETICS TRACK

MATCH 5 : Monday June 8th 2015
Venue – JARMONS PARK ATHLETICS TRACK

MATCH 6 : Monday June 17th 2015
Venue – WOODSIDE ATHLETICS TRACK

DISTRICT ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP
Wednesday 24th June
WOODSIDE ATHLETICS TRACK

House Music competition

By Mr Donovan – Head of Sycamore House



On Thursday 30th April, Bushey Meads hosted its first House Music Competition. It was a wonderful event, with so much talent on show.

The overall winners were Sycamore House.

Sycamore also won best Senior Soloist (Amy) and 2nd place for best Junior Soloist (Mica).



House Music Winners

Junior Soloist: Hannah Maile, 7Elm

Senior Soloist: Amy Murray, 12Sycamore

Choir: Elm

Theme: Beech

OVERALL WINNER: Sycamore House





Reach for the Stars!



Highly Able trip to Oxford University

By Sara Ash, Assistant Headteacher

On Friday 1st May, 40 students from years 11 and 12 visited the city of Oxford for the day. The purpose of the trip was to raise student aspirations and realise that gaining a place at one of the world's top universities is a possibility. The day started with a tour from a guide who explained the history of Oxford University, discussed famous students and professors or "fellows" who attended Oxford, how you apply for a place and how you learn.



Following a picnic lunch on the meadow outside Christchurch College, we then visited the Ashmolean Museum, a museum of Art and Archaeology for the afternoon.

Oxford University Facts and Figures

1. As the oldest university in the English-speaking world, Oxford is a unique and historic institution. There is no clear date of foundation, but teaching existed at Oxford in some form in 1096 and developed rapidly from 1167, when Henry II banned English students from attending the University of Paris
2. There are 38 colleges that make up Oxford University
3. There are 127 libraries at Oxford University
4. There are over 22,000 students at Oxford, including 11,703 undergraduates and 10,173 graduate students
5. The majority of Oxford's UK undergraduates come from state schools. Latest figures show that, for UK students attending schools or colleges in the UK, 56.3% of places on undergraduate courses went to applicants from the state sector

The students were extremely well behaved with one tour guide asking "Are you from an Independent School? Your students are so well presented and ask very intelligent questions".

Quotes from the day

'I found that the trip offered an insight into some of the best education in the country; giving me the chance to find out about the possible options open to me in the coming year. It was very interesting and has inspired me to work even harder!'



'The tour was very interesting and I learnt a lot about the city and the University.'



'I thoroughly enjoyed a trip to one of the leading universities in the country. It informed me about uni life and what is expected of one who would like to apply there.'

'I think it was a motivating experience that helped me think more about my future.'

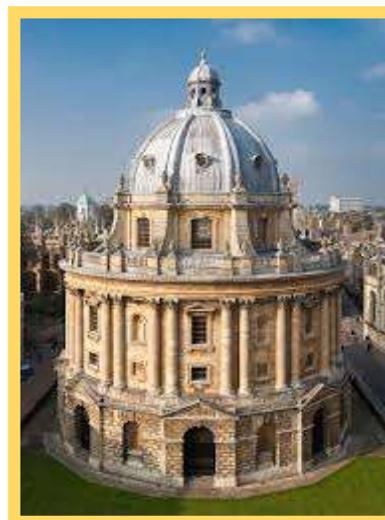
Famous Oxonians

Gifted men and women have studied or taught at the University throughout its history. Among them are 26 British Prime Ministers, at least 30 international leaders, 50 Nobel Prize winners, and 120 Olympic medal winners.

Some from the 20th century include:

- W H Auden, poet
- Sir Roger Bannister, neurologist and athlete
- Dame Josephine Barnes, first female President of the British Medical Association
- Alan Bennett, playwright
- Sir Tim Berners-Lee, inventor of the World Wide Web
- Tony Blair, former British Prime Minister
- Lord (Melvyn) Bragg, broadcaster
- Fiona Bruce, broadcaster
- Rt Hon David Cameron MP, current British Prime Minister
- Bill Clinton, former President of the United States
- Dr Penelope Curtis, Director, Tate Britain
- David Dimbleby, journalist and broadcaster

And many, many more



I would like to thank Mr Arnold, Ms Maloney and Mr Khan for their assistance in leading the trip.

New Rewards and Consequences Update

By Sara Ash, Assistant Headteacher

The new rewards and consequences system has now been running for just over a week. Early results indicate a fantastic start with students looking smarter and engaging more positively in lessons.

A small change is being made to the confiscation of items such as mobile telephones and jewellery and will come into force from Monday 18th May:

- Using a mobile phone in a lesson/using when not allowed or wearing inappropriate jewellery: C2 and confiscation until the following Monday
- Mobile phone going off in a lesson: C3 and confiscation for one week
- Inappropriate use of a mobile phone: C5-7, and 2 weeks confiscation

Year 10 Highly Able Trip

By Sara Ash, Assistant Headteacher

On Wednesday 6th May a group of 36 Year 10 students visited Central Hall in Westminster for a PiXL conference on “How to get into the top universities”. The students were given advice on what they needed to do above and beyond achieving outstanding results at GCSE and A level in order to gain a place at the renowned “Russell Group” universities.



the PiXL club
partners in excellence

The students were given guidance about how to choose a subject and a specific university along with advice on reading lists and useful websites for different subject areas. The skills these universities wish to see in students who apply to them are:

- Evidence of being an independent learner
- Evidence of an ability to do research
- Evidence of an ability to write a clear and coherent essay
- Evidence of an ability to think critical and solve problems
- Evidence of an ability to contribute ideas to a discussion or debate



Some Useful Websites

www.ted.com
www.arkive.org
www.thenakedscientists.com
www.galaxyzoo.com
www.nrich.maths.org/public
www.mathsnetalevel.com
www.planetmath.org
www.facingthefuture.org
www.gogeo.ac.uk
www.lawstudent.tv
www.lawcom.gov.uk
www.discoverengineering.org
www.econtalk.com

Russell Group Universities

Russell Group universities are committed to the highest levels of academic excellence in both teaching and research. Universities in the Russell Group are:

- University of Birmingham
- University of Bristol
- University of Cambridge
- Cardiff University
- Durham University
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Exeter
- University of Glasgow
- Imperial College London
- King's College London
- University of Leeds
- University of Liverpool
- London School of Economics & Political Science
- University of Manchester
- Newcastle University
- University of Nottingham
- University of Oxford
- Queen Mary University of London
- Queen's University Belfast
- University of Sheffield
- University of Southampton
- University College London
- University of Warwick
- University of York

'I felt the conference really gave me an insight into how I should be tackling my future studies. I enjoyed the way they engaged us with an interesting presentation and included lots of information about an array of subjects and courses.'



'I am really pleased I went on the trip as it made me realise how important it is to start preparing for university now even though it seems like years away.'



A big thank you to Ms Smallwood for organising the trip and Ms Maloney for helping to supervise the students.