

## Celebrating Success



On Wednesday 23rd September, three Bushey Meads students' outstanding achievement in the summer GCSEs was recognised on the national stage at a prestigious "Celebrating Success" event in Westminster Central Hall, London.

Organised by PiXL, students were nominated from over a thousand schools up

and down the country to receive

awards in a wide variety of categories.

Joseph (12S) received his award in recognition of his 10 As and A\*

grades. Evie (12O) more than exceeded expectations by

surpassing all of

her targets with 3A\*s, 6As and 2Bs. And similarly, Heather's (12M) hard work throughout Key Stage 4 paid off with a handsome set of results.

Award winners, parents and guests had a splendid evening that involved an inspiring address by the Dragon's Den entrepreneur, Levi Roots. The audience was entertained with spell-binding performances from the PiXL choir containing Bushey Meads students Esther Ayani (12O) and Aaron Robinson (10A) as well as a range of solo artists and ensembles selected from schools across the country. This was a truly extraordinary experience for all who took part from Bushey Meads and we went away feeling inspired for the future.

Mr Arnold – Assistant Headteacher KS4

## Dates for the Diary

### 28th September

Stoke Mandeville National Junior Games

### 30th September

Governors Meeting – Teaching and Learning

### 2nd October

Y9 Brighton Trip

### 21st October

Year 11 Revision Techniques Evening

# STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

## KEY STAGE 3



### **La'raib – 8 Maple**

La'raib has been chosen by the Pastoral Manager, Miss Dhanecha as the Student of the Week for KS3. La'raib spoke with Miss Dhanecha before the summer about her ambition to be a surgeon when she is older. Because of her ambition, La'raib approached her Science teacher for advice on how she can accelerate her progress in the core subject. Over the summer holidays, La'raib downloaded a number of useful Apps on her phone to complete Science related tasks that were GCSE level tasks. Her grades were at the highest level and she took pride in showing Miss Dhanecha the work she had completed. It is highly commendable for a student as young as La'raib to be working in such a focused manner towards her goals. Well done La'raib!

## KEY STAGE 4



### **Tyler – 10 Sycamore**

Tyler has been nominated as Student of the Week by Pastoral Manager, Miss Dhanecha. In a recent conversation with Tyler, Miss Dhanecha was highly impressed with the level of maturity Tyler demonstrated. He spoke about his desire to make the next two years really positive and is enjoying his new GCSE courses. Well done Tyler! We are looking forward to seeing your development as you progress through your KS4 curriculum.

## KEY STAGE 5



### **Kevin - 13 Willow**

Our KS5 student of the week this week is Kevin who is currently in Year 13. He has been awarded this for his outstanding commitment to learning demonstrated by his exceptional AS level results. Kevin achieved A grades in Geography, Government and Politics and History and a B grade in Mathematics. Kevin has chosen to continue studying Geography, Government and Politics and History in Year 13 this year and is currently applying to universities to study a degree in History.

# Word of the Week (WOW) at Bushey Meads

Danielle Bowe - Lead Practitioner for English and Whole school Literacy

## Language is empowering

Often students may encounter complex or unfamiliar language as part of their homework. A quick tip for exploring unfamiliar words is to type in to Google the word and then 'def'.

It will give you a wide selection of on-line dictionaries and instant definitions.

When you have selected a dictionary website, look out for this symbol: 

Clicking on it will also enable students to hear the unfamiliar word pronounced correctly.



### Word of the Week

21.9.15

This word comes to us from the Latin *-obligātiō-*, meaning 'binding'.

**Pronounced:** *ob-li-ga-tion*  
Noun



# Obligation

#### Definition

-something a person feels morally, legally or responsibly bound to do  
-a binding promise or contract.

**Use it instead of:**  
*agreement, responsibility, pact, duty, favour, in-debt*

An obligation is something that someone must do. This can be because it's a legal part of your job/role, or because it's the morally correct thing to do.

**Challenge:** *use this word in a conversation, or piece of writing this week.*

**Eg:**

- 'Instead of going out at the weekend, I felt an obligation to help my elderly grand parents.'
- 'Students have an obligation to complete their homework to a high standard!'

# Debating: A new term

Mrs Pinkus

Now in our third week of term, I am delighted to let you know that our debating groups have begun again with renewed energy and with many new members. We set off the term with a workshop for the senior debating group. This was run by year 13 student, Elodie Mayo who was voted overwhelmingly to chair this cohort. For her first workshop, Elodie organised a debating tennis challenge, wherein each of the group challenged a comment made by their sparring partner on a given topic. This encouraged a mutual sharing of ideas and thinking on your feet. A fantastic workshop enjoyed by all.



This was followed on Wednesday 16 September 2015 with our first fun debate: **This House would support girls in asking out guys.** The teams were mixed with students from across the year groups. Proposing the motion were students in years 7 and 8: Akshaa, Imran and Uxsa (with Marvin standing in on the day to cover her absence). Against the motion were students from years 8, 10 and 13, namely Huda, Zarmina and James.

We are in an age where there is a strive towards equality; we must fight against stereotypes; we should encourage confidence in women! Such were the arguments proposed, only to be challenged by tradition and practice. Who won? Why, it was the proposition.

Well done to all. This was an engaging first debate enjoyed by all. We look forward to seeing you in the future and would encourage more students to join in the fun.

## Year 9

### Religious Education

Mr Arnold – Assistant Headteacher KS4

T-aala Marsh, 9 Willow, is enjoying her Year 9 RE studies. She recently produced a beautiful title page to encapsulate how she hopes the world's different religions can come together. T-ala said "I designed the symbols to form the body of a dove, to symbolise religious harmony holding the key to a peaceful and progressive world."



# Year 12 and 13 visit to Berkhamsted School

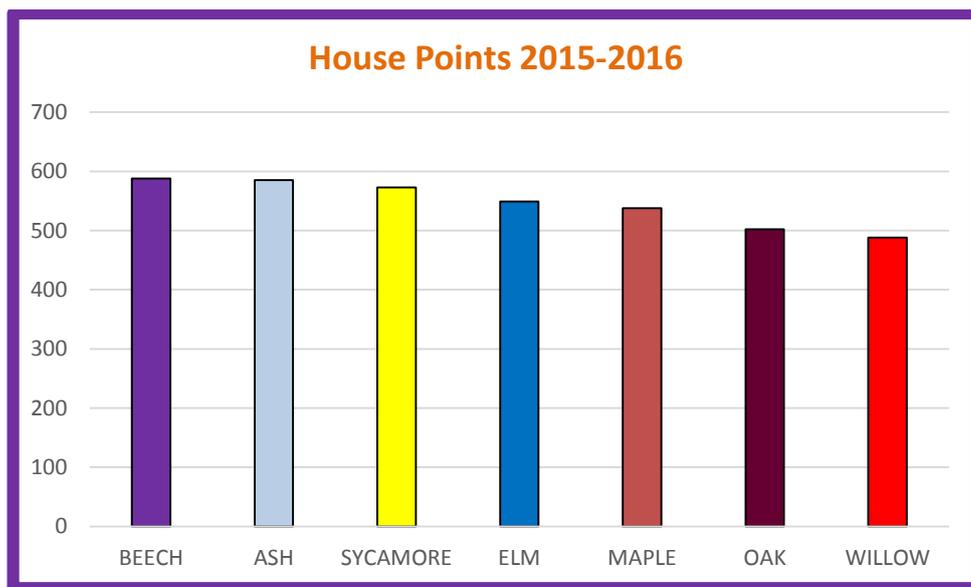
Ms Barker – Head of Geography

On the evening of Wednesday 16th September, the Geography department braved the rain to accompany 11 6th Form Geography students to a Geographical Association lecture at Berkhamsted School. The lecture was given by Laura Hanson of Newcastle University, who used photography, video and her own experiences to give an overview of the many uses of GPS (global positioning systems) and GNSS (global navigation and satellite systems) being developed and used today.

In addition to deepening their understanding of how satellite technology is being used in a variety of fields, the students also gained a taste of learning within a more formal 'lecture' style environment. The event stimulated much discussion about the variety of careers and University courses available within the Earth and Environmental sciences.

The next lecture is in November, where students will have the opportunity to hear Professor Martin Tranter (University of Bristol) discuss his experiences as the project leader of a ground-breaking study into factors influencing the melt rate of the Greenland Ice Sheet.

## House Points Update



Current House Totals

<b>BEECH</b>	<b>588</b>
<b>ASH</b>	<b>585</b>
<b>SYCAMORE</b>	<b>573</b>
<b>ELM</b>	<b>549</b>
<b>MAPLE</b>	<b>538</b>
<b>OAK</b>	<b>502</b>
<b>WILLOW</b>	<b>488</b>

Beech House has started strong again this year following their success in the House competition last year. There are a number of House events coming up this term where students can win extra points for their House including the launch of House Fantasy football, House Cross Country and the House Poetry Competition. Every reward point achieved by a student in or outside lessons also counts towards their House – every little helps!

# Year 10 Progression Evening

Mr Arnold - Assistant Headteacher KS4

Now almost into their fourth week of full GCSE studies, Year 10 students have made a fantastic start to life in Key Stage 4. All students have been focused in their lessons and have been engaging with the new academic demands that come with the step up from Year 9.



In order to further smooth this important transition, on Tuesday 22nd September, Year 10 students and their parents and carers gathered in the main Hall to hear key staff explain about the most important changes in GCSE programmes of study and to receive some advice and guidance about how to achieve amazing grades in the summer of 2017 - a mere 300 school days away!

During the evening, the new grading structure for English and Maths was explained. With grades to be awarded from 9 (the very best) to 1 (the lowest), the new benchmark of a “good” GCSE pass being a grade 5, students know exactly what they need to aim for.

English and Maths predicted grades will now be reported to students and parents using the new grading system with a fine grade attached to the number - an “a” for very secure, a “b” for insecure and a “c” for very insecure.



Ultimately, this will mean students receiving a mixture of grades and letters in their final exam results envelopes in 2017.

Ms Dhanecha, Bushey Meads’ Senior Pastoral Manager, then explained about the new-look pastoral system in place to support any students with issues ranging from emotional concerns to attendance and punctuality difficulties.

Ms Court, Head of Faculty for English, explained in detail the main changes to the English GCSE programme including the disappearance of controlled assessments and new texts to study giving invaluable advice on how parents can help their child in areas such as proof-reading.

NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE	CURRENT GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE
9	A*
8	A
7	B
6	B
5	C
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
U	G
	U

Mr Akram, Lead Practitioner in the Mathematics Faculty, showcased two resources to help students achieve highly in 2017. The first was MathsWatch, an online programme that shows students exactly how to solve mathematical problems. The second resource showcased was an smart phone or iPad app designed by a collaborative organisation, PiXL, that promises to have a hugely positive impact on students’ progress by diagnosing the topics and skills that require immediate attention.

Mr Bilton, Head of Faculty for Science, then explained that even though the routes that various students follow can be varied in Science, all students study each of the main disciplines of Chemistry, Biology and Physics that lead to the separate qualifications of Core Science and Additional Science - and therefore success in either Double or Triple Science. He was keen to encourage all students to learn as much key scientific vocabulary as possible and not to fear any of the challenges that lie ahead.

NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE	CURRENT GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE
9	A*
8	A
7	B
6	B
5	C
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
U	G
	U

The evening drew to a close with inspirational addresses from two Year 13 students, Kevin Tailor and Head Girl Emily Charalambous, who spoke about their experiences of revising for GCSE exams. They also explained how their success at Key Stage 4 had helped them join Bushey Meads School’s Sixth Form where they are both thriving and achieving magnificent A level grades.

It was immensely pleasing to see so many parents and carers with their sons and daughters in attendance. I am sure that this already strong partnership will continue to develop and strengthen as we all work together to ensure the students achieve magnificent results in 2017.

# PE and Health Faculty News 2015-16

Mr Cartledge – Head of PE Faculty

## Boys football

The football season is now well under way and this Saturday we look forward to the first weekend matches of the season with matches for Years 7-9 against Queens. Further Saturday matches will follow on the 3rd October, 10th October, 17th October, 14th November, 21st November and 28th November. Last week saw the Year 9 and Senior teams in action in the County Cup with both having extremely difficult 1st round draws against last seasons County Finalists.

### Match reports :

Year 9 Boys Football v St Clement Danes (County Cup)

**Result :** Lost 4-3

**Scorers :** Connor Cameron , Thanujan Tharmakulasingam 2

**Squad :** Connor Cameron, Jack Leech, Ben Faulkner, Josh Williams, Aidan Angold, Joe Manning, James Dodwell, Ethan Fiordelisi, Thanujan Tharmakulasingam, Anas Djahnit, Finlay Horastead, Joel Smith

**Commended performances :** Whole team

**Comment :** An outstanding effort by the Year 9 team who led the match three times only to concede two late goals to last years county finalists. The effort level throughout was excellent and the boys can be very proud of their performance.

Year 11 Boys Football v Hemel Hempstead (County Cup)

**Result :** Lost 5-1

**Scorers :** Sam Yelland

**Squad :** Archie Sharp, Josh Lawrence, Alex Garvey, Luke Piesley, Andrew Fordham, Joe Marks, James Yallop, Lyes Titouah, Michael Sturgess, Kobe Johnson, Sam Yelland

**Commended performances :** Archie Sharp, Sam yelland

**Comment :** It was a good effort by the boys against last years County Finalists. The boys were impressive in spells in possession but need to improve defensively.



## Summer 2015 - Cricket Success

Recently we were given the news that all 4 of the schools cricket teams had won their respective Division 1 cricket leagues this summer - a fantastic achievement a reflection of the popularity of the sport in the school. Well done to all the boys involved many of whom are pictured with their League Winners medals.



@BMSPEandHealth

# World Cup fever with Bushey Meads School

Mr Hawkins – PE Teacher

Harrow RFC was chosen as one of the very few clubs to host the Rugby World Cup on its Trophy Tour in the build up to the tournament starting on 19<sup>th</sup> September.

The Rugby World Cup was at Harrow RFC on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September and Bushey Meads School Year 8 rugby team were invited to join in the Rugby World Cup Trophy Tour.

It proved to be a great day with the team taking part in some practice sessions, ran by rugby qualified RFU coaches followed by some matches. They had a chance to be pictured with the Rugby World Cup (see below) and watched a senior game of rugby to end the day.

Thanks to all those involved at Harrow RFC for a memorable experience.



## Year 8 BMS Rugby Team

Back row (from right to left): Kamron, Alex, Jamie , Christy, Ross, Tom, Ethan, Prince and Mr Hawkins.

Front row (from right to left): Jude, Jack , Nathan, Billy, Luke and James.



# High Springers Trampolining at Bushey Grove

Mrs S. Cooper – PE teacher



Another fantastic sporting opportunity is on offer for Bushey Meads students **every** Wednesday at Bushey Grove. High Springers Trampoline club are running **FREE** trampolining sessions for students in years 8,9 and 10.



Funded through the Hertsmere community sports programme Bushey Meads have been successful in yet another bid to provide a wide range of opportunities for students of all abilities.

The coaching started last week with students making their own way to Bushey Grove. It was fantastic to see 24 students attend the first session especially considering the hideous weather conditions they endured to get to the session! This week the turnout was even better with 27 students in attendance!

Due to the popularity sessions will be split next week to provide a beginners group from 4-4.45 and a more advanced group from 4.45 -5.30. With students learning skills such as front and backdrops and others developing their front and back somersaults the sessions have really catered for the needs of all students. The sessions are due to run until Christmas. it's great to see so many students attending activities provided by the school but at a different venue.



Thanks High Springers and Helen from HSP for making this



# Netball Results

Week beginning: Monday 21st September

Mrs Cartledge – PE Teacher



## Year 7

**Date:** 23/9/15

**Opposition:** WGGS

**Result:** Lost 20-4

**Team:** Lia Flannagan, Ellie Rowe, Andrea Hutchinson, Georgia Brass, Jess Benveniste, Gabby Zhelyazkova, Bhavya Patel

**Comment:** The score does not reflect the hard work and excellent team play by all the girls in this match. A very difficult opposition for the year 7's first match! They all showed potential for the forthcoming season.

**Player of the match:** Bhavya Patel for excellent interceptions.

## Year 11

**Date:** 23/9/15

**Opposition:** WGGS

**Result:** lost 21-4

**Team:** Jess Pickles , Alyson Sunpongco, Tehya Bingham-Thaker, Myah Sharif, Tungvidya Samaji, Isabella Stovey, Elin Bonyadi

**Comment:** The girls worked extremely hard against a tough opposition. Special thanks to Tehya and Tungvidya for stepping in to play at such short notice.

**Player of the Match :** Jess Pickles for excellent defending in the circle.

**Year 8,9,10 and Senior matches against St. Margaret's were all postponed on Monday due to the heavy rain.**

**Next week we have matches against Bushey Academy.**

# Successful Student Learning Consultant (SLC) Applications

By Ms Morawska, Deputy Headteacher

We are currently advertising for Student Learning Consultants – an opportunity available to all students who would like to contribute to Teaching and Learning across the school. If you believe you have the qualities listed below, why not apply?

- ★ A role model for learning in lessons
- ★ Able to act as a visitor ambassador
- ★ Able to develop ideas and improve engagement
- ★ Enthusiastic participant who could lead/assist with student surveys
- ★ Willing to learn new skills and share them with your peers

It has been encouraging to see so many applications from students who were SLCs last year and I am delighted to confirm that Kajal and Zuzanna will once again be part of the SLC team for 2015/16.

I am writing to inform you that I would like to reapply for the new responsibility job. I will state all my reasons why I would be good for this job down below. Please could you read all my reasons carefully as I would really like this job. My first reason is that I am very creative and I come up with different ideas. When I was at primary I use to help my teachers come up with things, in our productions I use to help with everything I could. I believe this is an important quality to have as it helps to come up with new ideas such as if there is anything to improve on in lesson with my creativity we could come up with not only something fun but also something that makes lessons better.

My second reason is that I am a good role model and people can look up to me. When I was at primary school children use to look up to me not only because of my behaviour but also because I loved helping out children and teachers, and when homework is set I always hand it in and when it was too hard I use to ask teachers to help. Also throughout year I picked up tips and tricks for organization and many other things. I believe this is an important quality to have as it can help in my job as if I didn't have good behaviour and I got the job no-one would really take me seriously however if I was a good role model people would take me seriously.

My third reason is that I am responsible and I am trustworthy. Whenever there is a job that needs doing or an important thing such as a tour around the school you could trust me to look after them and show off our school well. I believe this is a good quality to have as if I am trustworthy and responsible you can trust me to do many things such as if there is a job that needs doing you can trust me to do it. With me having responsibility you can trust me to come to meetings and get all my forms filled out.

**Zuzanna  
Pawlaczyk  
8Elm**



**Kajal  
Dodhia  
11Beech**



I would like to continue this role because I want to help others achieve their goals. I am kind, a good listener and always willing to help others whether it is helping my classmates or fundraising for charity. I am confident enough to use my knowledge to help others.

I always aspire to do my best, I have recently shown this by passing my Grade 8 violin exam. I am currently working towards my GCSEs and I am hoping to do well so that I can continue to study A levels in preparation for university. When I need help with my school work, I ask my friends and teachers and I would like to be able to pass on this experience to other pupils. For example, I have recently been struggling to learn some french for my speaking exam, I asked my teacher to help me edit my work and then I asked my friends to test me on it.

As some students are quite quiet and are too shy to ask for help, I hope that by becoming a student learning consultant, I can enable students to feel more confident when talking to other students and teachers for help.

Following my assemblies this week, I know many of you are interested in applying so I have therefore extended the deadline for applications to **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October**.

### **How to Apply**

- ★ Interested applicants must explain, on one side of A4, how they can evidence their career at BMS to date with reference to the advert and advising what they would do to support the continual improvement of teaching and learning experiences at BMS. Year 7 students can draw on their experiences from primary school to support their application.
- ★ Applicants must provide a name of a staff member, from whom we can gain a reference within the application. Year 7 students can provide their form tutor, if preferred.
- ★ Deadline for applications, which must be handwritten, is **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October**. Please address your application to Ms Morawska and hand it into your form tutor or directly to Reception.
- ★ Please be mindful that SLC meetings will occur on a Tuesday, 3.15-4.15pm, (specific dates, not weekly) and full attendance is expected. Therefore consider any extracurricular activities you attend before applying. Successful applicants will be notified by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October ready for the first SLC meeting on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> October at 3.15pm.



**Is your son / daughter going to be working during holidays; at weekends or whilst at school?**

**Hertfordshire County Council have updated their information on *School Age Employment* designed to ensure that children (aged 13 – up to the end of year 11) work legally and safely in Hertfordshire.**

**If your son / daughter are going to be employed in work which is carried on for profit during the school holidays; at weekends or whilst at school they will normally need a Work Permit.**

**A Work Permit is required for paid or unpaid employment but is not required for babysitting; volunteering under the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme or work experience arranged by the school.**

**Your son's / daughter's employer will need to apply to Hertfordshire County Council for a Work Permit. The employer will need to carry out a health & safety risk assessment, advise you of the details and get your written consent to the proposed work.**

**A Work Permit will be approved if the employment and hours are within the rules and that the work will not be harmful to your child's health, welfare and education.**

**Further information on the types of work that school age children can do and the hours they are permitted to work are on the Hertfordshire County Council website – [www.hertsdirect.org](http://www.hertsdirect.org) – please look under "child employment" or ring the Children's Services helpline 0300 123 4043.**

**Or scan**



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