

## NATIONAL FILM & TV SCHOOL VISIT BY YEAR 7 STUDENT



Last month Joshua Lim (07Ash) was given a superb opportunity to participate in some film work. He wrote to tell me all about it last week and I thought I would share some of his experiences with you by way of extracts from his letter:

*'The film I was acting in is called 'Believe' and it is about a Chinese family that lives on a boat. The story line recounts the old memories of the family.'*

*'We went to the National Film and TV School for the filming. There were many people involved on the set. We did our scenes several times repeatedly, making small changes to what we did or how we sat.'*

*'My brother and I really enjoyed acting in this film and wished we could do more. My favourite part of the day was acting and seeing all the props and the enormous wooden boat built for the set. I discovered that there is so much more involved in filming other than the actors and directors and I can't wait to see the film soon.'*

I am sure this experience will remain in Joshua's memory for a long time and will help him to understand so much more about the challenges of film making when he is watching TV at home or visiting the cinema in the future.

Mr Turner  
Executive Principal

## Dates for the Diary

### **25<sup>th</sup> November**

Y13 Visit to University of Herts  
Governors Meeting 6.30 – 8.30

### **26<sup>th</sup> November**

Y7 Parents Consultation Evening  
4.30-7.30

### **1<sup>st</sup> December**

Y13 Parents Consultation Evening  
4.30-7.30

# STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

## KEY STAGE 3



Our Key Stage 3 student of the week is Bethany 7 Willow. Bethany participated in the talent show and performed an amazing rendition of Sam Smith's "The writing's on the wall". Bethany showed great maturity and courage performing on stage in front of an audience. Bethany has also been working hard since she started here in September and has many reward points to highlight this.

## KEY STAGE 4



This weeks' KS4 student of the week is Elin – 11 Sycamore, who made a huge effort to learn her French writing assessment (15% of her grade) and has produced a very good piece. She always goes above and beyond to ensure that she has produced excellent work and pushes herself very hard.

## KEY STAGE 5



### **Matt 13Sycamore**

Our KS5 student of the week this week is Matt who is currently in Year 13. He has been awarded this for his outstanding Attitude to Learning (AtL) scores in his most recent report. Matt has been recognised by all his teachers as having the highest level possible, an AtL of 7, in all his subjects. Matt is currently studying English, Government and Politics, Music and Photography.

# Word of the Week (WOW) at Bushey Meads

Danielle Bowe - Lead Practitioner for English and Whole School Literacy

## Language is empowering

*This week at Bushey Meads we have been thinking about the word 'superfluous'. Perhaps ask your son/daughter if they have anything in their life they think is 'superfluous'.*



**Word of the Week**

16.11.15 This word originates from the Latin and means "overflowing": *super*, "over" + *fluere*, "to flow."



**Pronounce it: Soo-per-floo-uhs** adjective

**Definition**

1. Being more than is sufficient or required; excessive.
2. Unnecessary or needless.

When something is so unnecessary that it could easily be done away with, we call it *superfluous*.  
*Superfluous* means "more than required." You can use it when pointing out something that could be removed without detracting from the quality of something: "*For a climb over a glacier, the very thickest shoes are absolutely necessary; beyond these, all else seems superfluous to me,*" wrote the adventurer Charles Stoddard in 1899.

Examples in sentences:

- Isn't it superfluous to have 60 pairs of trainers when you can only wear one pair at a time?*
- 'Writing more than the required 750 words for this research task is superfluous,' explained our English teacher.*

**Use it instead of:**  
*extra, redundant, senseless, wasted unneeded surplus, extra.*

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

# Superfluous

## Sharing time, good practice and future plans

Hilary Morawska - Deputy Head Teacher, Teaching and Learning

It was with great pleasure on Monday 9th November to welcome to Bushey Meads, Lisa Evans, the Deputy Headteacher of Little Reddings. We immediately engaged in a Learning Walk of Bushey Meads' Year 7 classes, where it gave Mrs Evans not only the opportunity to see some familiar faces belonging to ex-Little Reddings students, but also for her to review the learning experiences of this year group.

She was impressed with the additional hour dedicated to reading, in the Learning Resource Centre and also of the sophistication of the literature chosen by students who were very keen to share their reviews. I was pleased to hear that the technical level of understanding demonstrated in an English lesson certainly presented progress in their learning. The engagement of the students in their French lesson was delightful to observe and Mrs Evans was very impressed with the behaviour for learning evidenced in all classrooms visited.

She did however, and very much as I would have wished, identify areas where she felt we could improve delivery and approach to our Year 7s. It is always so good to learn from visiting professionals and we are developing these 'even better ifs', as I write.

We discussed how both schools could support and learn from each other. Our development and improvement in our marking and feedback is an example of an area which we can support our primary colleagues. I expressed a wish for their staff, who I have observed delivering outstanding phonics sessions, to deliver training to our staff as an additional strategy to continue to improve student outcomes.

Our time together raced by, but we were both so very excited about the numerous possibilities of working closely together that our two schools can bring, to the benefit of all our students. From this meeting, arrangements for Bushey Meads staff to visit Little Reddings is already in hand. I very much look forward to our next meeting.

# BMS Student Learning Consultants

2015/16

Ms Morawska, Deputy Headteacher

We welcome the following students as our Student Learning Consultants (SLCs) for 2015/16. These students will play a key role in continuing to improve teaching and learning across the school. I look forward to sharing future articles with you on their work.

ASH	
Year 7	Jesse Harry-Brown
Year 7	Owen Thomas
Year 8	Angela Qarib
Year 10	Pranav Lakhani
Year 11	Alice Sherwood
Year 13	Danielle Pickens

BEECH	
Year 9	Mark Antunes
Year 9	Holly Kemp
Year 9	Imogen Tudor
Year 10	Daisy Olyett
Year 11	Kajal Dodhia
Year 11	Tracy Fernandes
Year 11	Daisy Wardell

ELM	
Year 7	Sobiha Velupillai
Year 8	Vorshaan Karunanithy
Year 8	Zuzanna Pawlaczyk
Year 10	Oswald Fernandes
Year 12	Jack Smith

OAK	
Year 9	Arin Rajani
Year 9	Angel De Alwis

MAPLE	
Year 8	Pallav Hingu
Year 9	Louise Dwyer
Year 10	Claudia Baldry
Year 11	Hannah Lynch
Year 12	Hassan Naz

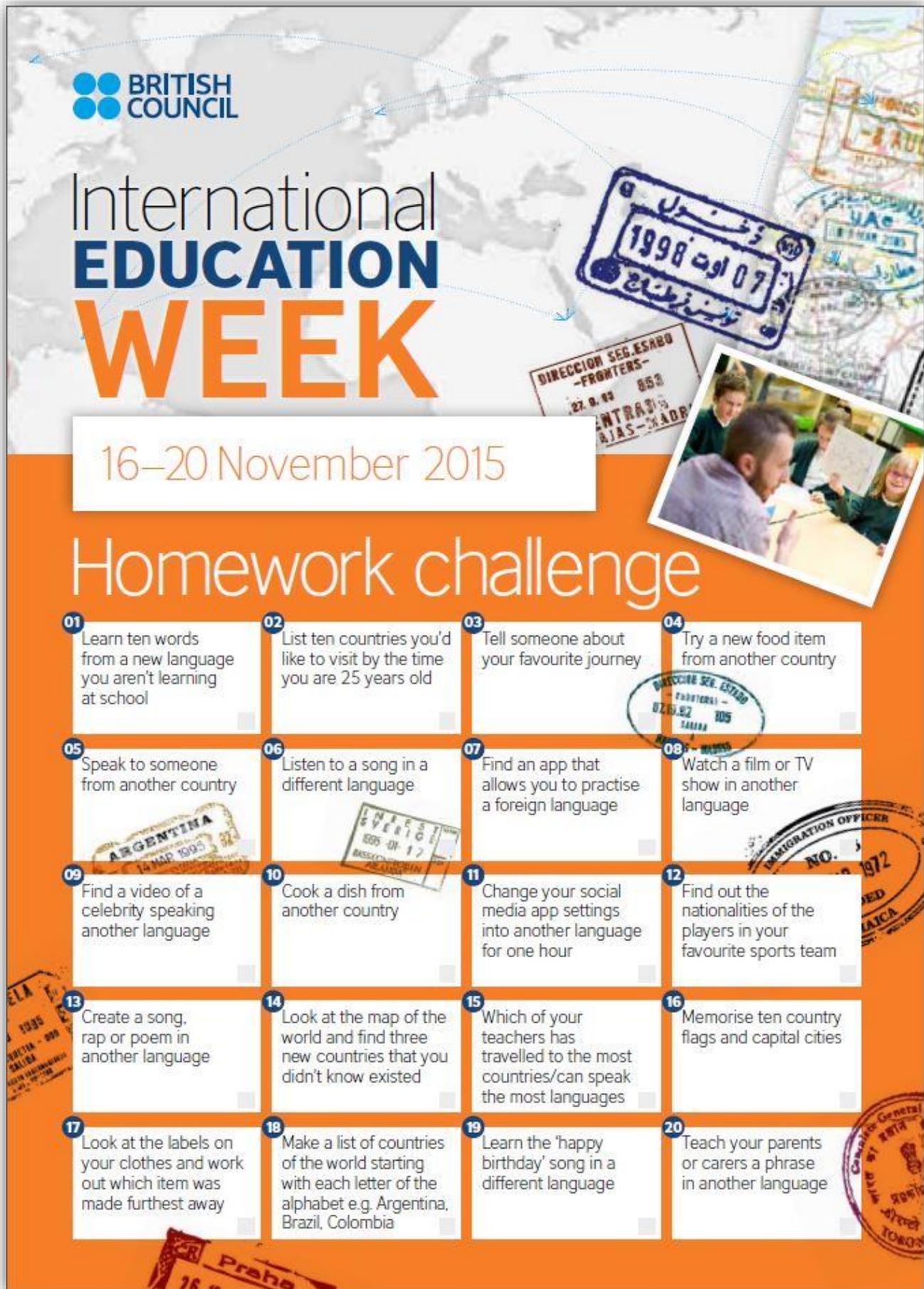
SYCAMORE	
Year 8	Harrisha Sivanathan
Year 8	Lakshaa Srishankar
Year 9	Katie Sharp
Year 9	Rebecca Ward
Year 9	Molly Wray

WILLOW	
Year 7	Fantasia Mulima-Matiya
Year 7	Deepa Patel
Year 10	Lily Jarvis
Year 10	Riya Patel
Year 11	Joseph Cox
Year 12	Noah Malancinas

# Languages Focus: International Education Week

Mrs Dawson – Head of MFL

This week is International Education Week and the Homework Challenge is a quick and easy way for you to 'audit' how international you are. If you can answer more than 12 questions from below, email Mrs Dawson. There will be a prize for the most detailed responses.



The poster features a world map background with dotted lines connecting various locations. It includes several passport stamps: a blue one from Morocco dated 07 Oct 1998, a white one from Spain dated 27.9.93, a yellow one from Argentina dated 14 MAR 1995, a white one from Mexico dated 1995-01-17, a white one from the UK dated 1972, and a purple one from the Czech Republic dated 26.11.1995. A photograph shows a group of students sitting around a table, looking at a document. The British Council logo is in the top left corner.

**BRITISH COUNCIL**

## International EDUCATION WEEK

16–20 November 2015

### Homework challenge

- Learn ten words from a new language you aren't learning at school
- List ten countries you'd like to visit by the time you are 25 years old
- Tell someone about your favourite journey
- Try a new food item from another country
- Speak to someone from another country
- Listen to a song in a different language
- Find an app that allows you to practise a foreign language
- Watch a film or TV show in another language
- Find a video of a celebrity speaking another language
- Cook a dish from another country
- Change your social media app settings into another language for one hour
- Find out the nationalities of the players in your favourite sports team
- Create a song, rap or poem in another language
- Look at the map of the world and find three new countries that you didn't know existed
- Which of your teachers has travelled to the most countries/can speak the most languages
- Memorise ten country flags and capital cities
- Look at the labels on your clothes and work out which item was made furthest away
- Make a list of countries of the world starting with each letter of the alphabet e.g. Argentina, Brazil, Colombia
- Learn the 'happy birthday' song in a different language
- Teach your parents or carers a phrase in another language

# Governors' Day 2015

Mr Turner – Executive Principal

On Tuesday 17 November earlier this week, we held our now annual Governors' Day and 12 of our hardworking governors were in school for a variety of activities designed to support the ongoing school improvement agenda. The day helped to promote the excellent work of our Governing Body with students and staff and also enabled our governors to gain a real insight into the day to day work that goes on at our fabulous school. The busy day started with the governors being welcomed by the Student Leadership Team and Student Learning Consultants and then meeting staff and students at Breakfast Club in the School Restaurant before school.



Our superb Student Learning Consultants (SLCs) had planned a great ice-breaking activity which they shared with the governors over breakfast. Based around two truths and a lie, it tested our governors' knowledge of the school!



Our Chair of Governors Di Hoeksma and Vice Chair of Governors Richard Abrahams led an inspirational Key Stage 4 Assembly and shared their thoughts about the Theme of the Week 'Self Worth' and how an excellent attitude can enable all of us to achieve great things. The other governors also attended the assembly to introduce themselves to the students.





Governors were then taken on a tour of the school by students - visiting all classrooms and teaching areas. The students answered any questions that the governors had about the school and the learning that was taking place.



Governors then spent time meeting students to find out more about each faculty area in the school. Students showed the governors their work and told them about the strengths and what they wanted to see develop in each area of the school.





All the governors commented on how superb the students were in these sessions – talking clearly about their ‘Stars’ and ‘Wishes’ for each faculty area and showing their commitment to the ongoing success of the school. At breaktime, the governors joined the hard working Bushey Meads staff in the staffroom and used this opportunity to thank them for all they are doing in the school to support the students at the school in such an exemplary way

They also congratulated the staff for their major achievements this term – not least in securing so many improved outcomes at GCSE, AS and A2 level, but also in the recent good with outstanding Ofsted judgement and very positive published report.

Governors also met with the Head of Faculty for each area to discuss the faculty’s results and plans for future developments. They also went on a tour of the faculty with the Head of Faculty. Discussions were also held to explore ways to strengthen the link between the Governor and the work of the faculty in school and to make even better use of data in order to raise students’ achievement.



During lesson 4 a joint Governors/Student Parliament Meeting was held in the Sixth Form Study Centre to discuss ways in which the school could be further improved as a learning community, particularly in relation to strengthening and promoting the very important Anti-Bullying Agenda.

Led by Head Boy Ben and Head Girl Emily, it was a very productive meeting that will undoubtedly help to shape and promote this important agenda more widely across our learning community.



After lunch for the governors and students in the School Restaurant, the day finished with some lovely performances in the Drama Studio by our talented Music, Dance and Drama students.



Each governor wrote a report about their meetings with students and staff and this will be shared with the Head of Faculty, the Full Governing Body and Senior Leadership Team of the school.

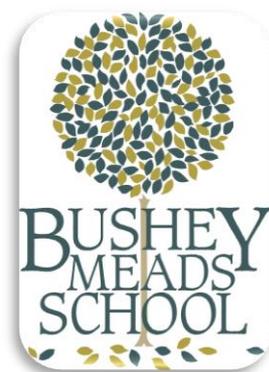
I would like to thank all the staff and students for their hard work in making the Governors' Day 2015 such a success and also thank all our governors for giving up their time so generously.

The day certainly gave our governors an invaluable insight into the work that we all do to make Bushey Meads School such a successful school.

# Student Learning Consultants Continue to Grow...

Ms Morawska – Deputy Headteacher

It is always a pleasure to find one of our students who wishes to volunteer for a leadership role in school. Below you will find a letter recently received from Divija, one of our lovely Year 7's, who has seen the great work of our SLCs and wishes to become a part of this exciting and forward thinking group. I am sure you will agree she will make a great addition to this group. I would like, however, to request some more volunteers from our 6th formers, who would benefit from working within this leadership role. If you are interested, please come and speak with Ms Morawska, or write a letter (an email is fine) as Divija did below advising why you are suitable for the role. I look forward to receiving your letters.



*Dear Ms Morawska,*

*I am Divija from 7 Willow and you might know me because I am in your R.E class. I am writing to you because I would like to become an SLC. We have already sorted it out in class however I missed the opportunity. I have spoken to Mrs Ennis today at break time and she told me to e-mail you. Here are reasons why I would like to become an SLC.*

*Firstly, I would like to become a Student Learning Consultant because I have monitored the school before for KS1 and helped them read better and write better. I have experienced being school council for two consecutive years. I have discussed issues during the meeting and I changed the school in a certain way how everyone wanted it to be using their suggestions. When I was school council, I ensured that everyone was satisfied about the changes amended to the school. If they were not, then I would take their suggestion and discussed it at the meeting and tried my best and protested so that his/her suggestion was contributed.*

*Secondly, I would like to become one because I would like to enrol in a leadership like a SLC and would like to experience it at my new school in Bushey Meads. It would be a great opportunity for me and it would be a good experience for me to work with different people. It would be a great chance for me to show people in Bushey Meads who I am and a great chance to settle in the school a bit more. If staff or a governor or visitor came to see my lesson, I would greet them politely, shake their hand, introduce myself, explain what subject and topic we are doing in class, allow them to present my books and ask them nicely if they have any questions to ask me.*

*I am hard working, mature, responsible and very dedicated towards doing this job just like in my primary school. I would be extremely grateful and appreciative if you pick me as a Student Learning Consultant. Thank you for taking your time and reading my e-mail and I really appreciate it. Thank you!*

*Yours truly,  
Divija  
7 Willow*

# Watford District Cross-Country Championships 2015

Mr Cartledge – Head of PE Faculty

Last Thursday 12th November nearly 40 Bushey Meads students from Years 7 and 9 took part in the annual District Cross-Country Championships at Aldenham Park. Over 100 students took part in each year group race in a keenly contested afternoon of running. Special mention must go to Jess in Year 7 who came in a fantastic 2nd place in the year 7 girls race. This is an outstanding achievement and Jess now qualifies for the County Cross-Country Championships. Other notable performances came from Sophie and Anouska who also produced excellent performances to come 11th and 12th respectively in the Year 9 girls race. Top performing boys on the day were Charlie (Year 7 Boys) and Charlie (Year 9 Boys). Well done to all those who took part. The year 8, 10 and 11 runners will be in action this week



## Football

### Year 9 Boys Football v Hemel Hempstead (Friendly)

**Date** : Sat 14th November

**Result** : Lost 2-1

**Scorers** : Thanujan Tharmakulasingam

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

**Comment** : An excellent game of youth football with the boys unlucky to lose in a very keenly contested game

### Year 9 Boys Football v St Joan of Arc (District Cup)

**Date** : Tues 17th November

**Result** : Lost 5-2

**Scorers** : Conner Cameron, Finlay Horastead

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

**Comment** : A spirited second comeback from the boys after a disappointing first half against a very strong St Joan of arc team.

### Year 8 Boys Football v Hemel Hempstead (Friendly)

**Date**: Saturday 14th November

**Result**: Lost 7-1

**Scorers**: James Kimber

**Squad** : Zachary Faulkner, Mohammed Mansouri, James Kimber, Ross Marsh, Luke Fletcher-Gray, **Owen O'Mahony (Captain)**, Kieran Barnard-White, Jack Leeves, Jake Watt, Nathan Angold, Billy Garvey, Prince Coaster-Etuk and Pavit Sangasinha.

**Comment**: A scoreline that does not reflect the hard work that the boys put in. The team did well creating a number of goal scoring opportunities that they could not put away, and were left short in defence allowing Hemel Hempstead to score. Fantastic finish from James Kimber.



# Girls Sports Results

## Wednesday 11th November- Tuesday 17th November

Mrs Cooper – PE Teacher

### Netball



#### Year 8 - SJC

Date: 17/11/15

Opposition: Reach Free

Result: Lost 6-9

Team: Kanishka, Naomi, Kaitlin, Myf, Abbie, Cerys, Anais, Anna, Nicole

Comment: In a close game the girls played well with some great work in the attacking third.

Player of the Match : Abbie Andrews

#### Year 9 - SJC

Date: 11/11/15

Opposition: Reach Free

Result: Lost 6-18

Team: R.Aravindan, A.Trivedi, M.Shah, E.Houghton-Brown, A.Rashid, M.Bonyadi, B.Parker, G.Bryant

Comment: A game where the score line does not reflect the game. Bushey Meads were excellent in defence thwarted by an outstanding shooter.

Player of the Match : Ragavi and Ashvina, some great defensive work.

### Football

#### Year 7 - SW/SH

Date: 16/11/15

Opposition: St.Margarets

Result: won 1-0

Goal Scorer: Shantae Plummer

Team: K.Branigan, A.Elman, L.Roberts, F.Boselli, B.Costa, V.Fordham, S.Plummer, B.Brindley

Comment: A great result for the year 7 team playing against students in the year above. In fading light they acquitted themselves really well and deserved their victory

Player of the Match :



#### Year 7 - SH

Date: 17/11/15

Opposition: District Tournament

Team: K.Branigan, A.Elman, L.Roberts, F.Boselli, B.Costa, V.Fordham, S.Plummer, B.Brindley, Z.Rathod

Comment: Although the girls didn't make it into the final they play really well in wet and windy conditions, with some really close games. the highlight a victory against

Player of the Tournament:



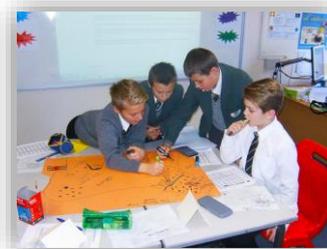
Half-time team  
talk from  
Mr.Hawkins.

# Enrichment Day

Mr Fisher – Assistant Headteacher KS3

Last Thursday saw our first whole-school enrichment day of the year.

Year 7 worked on a communities project for the day, planning a community from scratch and exploring all the related issues of leadership, democracy, laws, rights and responsibilities.



The Year 8 day took a range of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) learning activities. The day began with an hour and a half of computer coding. Switching to Science and Engineering, students then completed the intriguingly named 'Squashed Tomato Challenge', and after lunch embarked on solving a range of stretching, mathematical brain teasers.



Year 9 were given the opportunity to study one of four arts disciplines for a whole day; Dance, Art, Drama or Music. By spending a whole day they were able to be really creative in their favourite art. The Performing Arts Faculty designed the day to give students a substantial taste of what it would be like to study each of those subjects at GCSE level, which supports the forthcoming options process.



English GCSE was the focus of the Year 10 day. As well as studying English with their English teacher, they took part in a practical PE activity followed by an English literacy exercise, discussing aspects arising from the practical PE session.

Year 11 were thinking further ahead, getting expert tuition in preparing personal statements, and then writing their own; personal statements that will help them get a head start and one day form the basis of job and UCAS applications.

The sixth form took off to London; school coaches were provided to Stanmore, from where students and their teachers took the train to a range of artistic and cultural destinations in London.



We arrange one whole-school enrichment day each term. They give students the opportunity to enjoy learning in different settings and via different delivery models. They allow a depth of coverage in curriculum areas and provide breadth to the curriculum too. As a result of staff efforts and the focus and application of our students, Thursday's event, like the others last year, has truly lived up to the name - 'enrichment'.



# THEME of the WEEK: Self-Worth

Mrs Ash, Assistant Headteacher KS5

## ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

### What is bullying?

Behaviour by an individual or group, usually repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally

Bullying can include: name-calling; taunting; mocking; making offensive comments; physical behaviour (e.g. kicking, hitting, pushing, etc.); taking belongings; inappropriate text messaging and emailing; sending offensive or degrading images by phone or via the internet/social media; producing offensive graffiti; gossiping; excluding people from groups; spreading hurtful and untruthful rumours; racist remarks.

### What to do if you feel you or a friend are being bullied

Tell somebody about it. You can:

- Report it via the STUDENT WATCH area on the school website
- Email or speak to an Anti-Bullying Coordinator (ABC)
- Email or speak to your form tutor, a teacher or a pastoral manager

### Build a Wall against Bullying: *student quotes*

If you're being bullied  
act fast and tell an  
adult about it

Push through the tough times  
Tell someone you trust  
Your mind set is your greatest weapon  
through your battles with life

Don't let them push you  
round – tell someone  
you trust

Don't be scared to tell anyone no  
matter the threat

Talk to someone about it

Tell a teacher or a  
friend

Do not keep it to  
yourself

Tell someone that can help,  
rather than wait for it to  
get even worse

If you can't beat them, **don't**  
join them! Tell someone!



Ms Day  
Anti-Bullying Co-ordinator

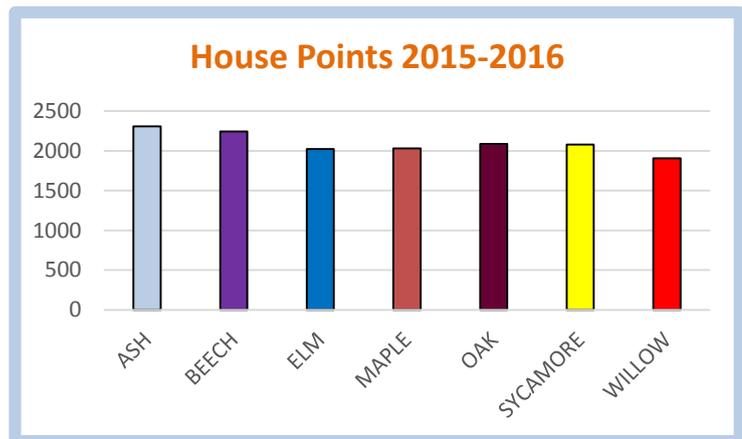


Ms Smart  
Anti-Bullying Co-ordinator

# House Points Update

Current House Totals

ASH	2310
BEECH	2245
MAPLE	2089
ELM	2078
SYCAMORE	2031
OAK	2025
WILLOW	1907



## Bushey Meads Debating Society: Wednesday 18 November 2015

E Pinkus

To prepare for the forthcoming Hertfordshire Debating Competition which will take place at the House of Commons in December, the debating society held their first debate on a topic given to Bushey Meads for this event.

Today the motion was: This House believes that it is not acceptable to use torture to secure information from terror suspects.

Undoubtedly, this is a subject which has had further exposure through recent world events and certainly is topical. Arguing for the motion were students Kevin, year 13 and Nathaniel, year 10. Against was a team from year 8, George and Nathan. The meeting was chaired by Elodie, year 13.

We are a society founded on the belief of moral principle and human code. To behave otherwise would defile our very essence. At no time can we justify torture which in fact achieves little. Under torture, there may be false admission of information simply to stop the relentless pain. Equally, those seeking martyrdom may embrace the misplaced heroism of torture. There must be other methods. Against this was the fact that if torture can save lives, surely that is the responsibility of governments to protect their people. Furthermore, surveillance and other methods are equally an affront to moral principle.



Well done to those who argued the motion and well done to the wonderful support from all attendees. Questions were challenging and our competition team have certainly now food for thought on their preparation. We wish them well and look forward to next week's practice of our second title.



# Stunning Senior Music Concert

Mr Turner – Executive Principal



It was an absolute privilege to attend the senior music concert of Wednesday evening of this week. Staged in the intimate performance venue of the main Drama Studio, it was a real showcase of eclectic BMS musical talent. Hugely professional musicians and singers, all the performers were amazing and, if you didn't attend, you really missed out a really superb event.



I would like to congratulate all the students for their superb performances and all the staff and student technicians who helped and supported the performers to make the event so successful. A particular thank you to Miss Brown, our fantastic Music Teacher and superb Music Coordinator across the Bushey St James Trust.

