

## Students Really Aspiring to Achieve



It is always a real delight to be able to walk around the classrooms of our thriving learning community and see the excellent work that students are completing in lessons across the school.



With our newly renewed focus on 'stretch and challenge' in lessons and ensuring that our more able students in all curriculum areas are being appropriately challenged to progress to the highest level in their learning, it was superb to see the Year 10 Top Set Mathematicians being given the chance to try some A level work.

The students were clearly enjoying the additional challenge and the experience 'whet their appetite' for Maths learning at Post 16 level; it certainly gave them confidence to aim for those A\* or the new level 9 in their GCSE exams next year.



Taught by Mr Akram, our outstanding Lead Practitioner for Maths, the students' work was appropriately differentiated but included some extension work based around solving some triple simultaneous equations. In other words solving a system of three equations in three unknowns.

Mr Turner – Executive Principal

## Dates for the Diary

### 30<sup>th</sup> November

Staff Development Day – **No Students in school**

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

**Y13** Parents Consultation Evening  
4.30-7.30  
**Y11** PPE

### 2<sup>nd</sup> December

**Y12** AS History Conference  
Governors Meeting

### 3<sup>rd</sup> December

**Y13** Mock Drams Performance  
15.30

### 4<sup>th</sup> December

**Y12 & 13** Chemistry in Action

# STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

## KEY STAGE 3



**Louise - 09 Maple** - for her excellent attitude to her learning. Louise has no behaviour points and has excellent ATL's in her last assessment. She constantly contributes to lessons positively, moving on in not only her own learning, but the understanding of others. She always acts on feedback on her work and is making excellent progress. Well done Louise, keep up the excellent work!

## KEY STAGE 4



**Jay - 10 Willow** - for his hardworking and enthusiastic approach to his education. Jay is highly cooperative and a hardworking student, making good progress in all of his subjects, including English. Ms Bowe, Jay's English teacher commented "Jay works hard to build on the comments and feedback in his book and improves his writing. Some excellent contributions in class". Keep up the excellent work and you will achieve your potential.

## KEY STAGE 5



### **Marco 12Oak**

Our KS5 student of the week this week is Marco who is currently in Year 13. He has been awarded this for the outstanding effort and progress made in Spanish since the beginning of the year. Marco is currently studying biology, mathematics, physics, Spanish and the Extended Project Qualification.



# Arranging Medical Appointments for your Children?

Mr Turner, Executive Principal



All parents and carers know that there is a very strong correlation between attendance and achievement. It is a proven fact that students with 100% attendance do better in school, achieve the best results and make most progress.

With that in mind, all medical appointments should be arranged **after school hours** or **during school holidays**.

On the rare occasions where this is impossible to do so, please make every effort to arrange the appointment for *as limited time as possible* during the *morning session* of school.

Where possible, do ensure that your child **actually attends morning registration** (and is therefore marked present and not absent for that session.) In addition please ensure that they return well before the afternoon school session and again are able to **attend school in the afternoon** and therefore be marked present for that afternoon session.

Although clearly some lessons will be missed and your child will have to catch up with the work, following this guidance will help to maintain your child's 100% attendance record in school. It will also ensure that our very good school attendance figures are maintained at the highest level.

## CHRISTMAS IS APPROACHING....

### THE AWARD-WINNING ULTIMATE PLUM PUDDING

Due to the increasing success year on year of the 'Ultimate Plum Pudding' we are once again offering these puddings to you – and still at the price of just **£5.00**.

The Ultimate Plum Pudding Company is a small organisation based in Kendal, Cumbria, who is committed to sustainable production. The puddings are endorsed by the BBC Good Food Magazine and The Guild of Fine Food, and they have received no less than three gold awards by the Great Taste Awards. Last year they were very proud to announce that Fortnum and Mason are now also selling their puddings (at a cost of far in excess of £5 we are sure!).

All the vine fruits are soaked overnight in oodles of brandy and dry sherry. Only the finest ingredients are used and include almonds, walnuts, stem ginger, apricots, cherries, freshly grated carrots as well as the best raisins and sultanas. It's light, sweet, aromatic and tastes exquisite!

The Ultimate Plum Pudding is not available in high street supermarkets so it makes for a very special gift for family and friends, especially as it will come packaged with a Bushey Meads personalised logo and Christmas greeting from all the staff and students.

To order your 1lb (450g) Ultimate Plum Pudding (which serves 4 - 6) please email [reception@bushey.meads.org.uk](mailto:reception@bushey.meads.org.uk) to request an order form, or your child can collect a form from the student finance window. Once completed, the form needs to be deposited in the student finance safe, marking your envelope 'Xmas Pud order' and enclosing correct payment. We have ordered a limited supply of these puddings so the Ultimate Plum Pudding will be available on a first come, first served basis. To secure your pudding place your order as soon as possible!

Best Wishes

Mrs Armitage, PA to Executive Principal



# LRC News

Mr. Back - LRC Manager

Year 7s have been compiling their **Book Review Folders** with tremendous enthusiasm since joining Bushey Meads School in September and this month I would like to congratulate one year 7 student in particular.

Zara of 7Oak has produced an exemplary folder and has completed several fantastic book reviews.

Zara tells me that she really enjoys compiling the **Book Review Sheets** and often shares her thoughts on the books she has read with her friends.



Zara has said she really looks forward to her weekly Literacy lesson in the LRC.

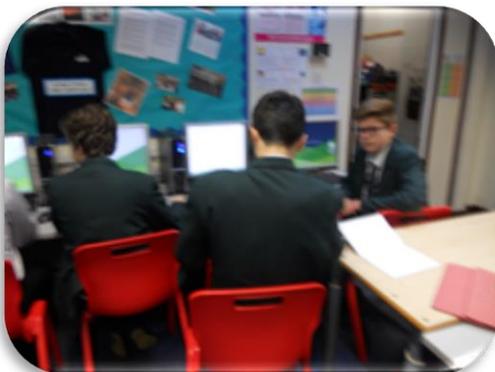
Congratulations Zara on this excellent effort.

## Business Studies Dept: GCSE year 10 challenge 2015

### E Pinkus

Year 10 Business Studies students are currently preparing their entries for the Real Business Challenge, organised by Coca-Cola.

This is a national competition where students in year 10 are invited to create a new product for this large multinational. The product must embrace sustainability and be founded on ethical and moral principles. Furthermore, it should be healthy in its content.



Many skills are needed including the ability to work in teams, to problem solve, to support colleagues and to be creative. Business skills of marketing, finance and product development are similarly called into play.

What will their flavours be? What will the packaging look like? What will their corporate social responsibility reflect? We look forward to seeing the final presentations and entering this challenge, which encourages collaborative and participative learning.

# More Able at BMS – The British Physics Olympiad

Ms Booth – Physics teacher

This term a group of our more able year 10 students have been working on a project to enter into the British Physics Olympiad experimental competition. The contest which is run by Oxford University, presents students with a problem that they must investigate. The problem that has been given this year is an investigation into the phenomenon of resonance.



The project gives students experience of how experimental research is carried out. They must plan and undertake the experiment and create a written report of their findings, in much the same way as research scientists would. Our students have been working extremely hard on this project to produce an excellent entry.

## Drugs Awareness Education – Year 8

Miss C Hazell

Last week the year 8 students had the exciting opportunity to see the band "SD\*JEM," on a Life Skills & Drug Education themed school tour. The band have recently supported Cher Lloyd and the Saturdays. They ran an interactive session, where they discussed the dangers of taking drugs, how to avoid peer pressure and where to seek advice. The students thoroughly enjoyed the performance and took a lot away from the session. This will be followed up with a drugs awareness program in tutorial time.



It was really eye opening, the stories that we heard about the dangers of taking drugs. We learnt a lot and it has made me think.

**Kameron Campbell**

I found it really inspiring and enjoyed the music. I thought the information they gave us was really useful.

**Jamie Alexander**

It was really cool and interesting to find out about a serious topic from young people.

**Ellie Grayling**

# Languages Focus: Key Stage 5 student focus

Ms Dawson – Head of MFL

For the next few weeks, we will be looking at Key Stage 5 students who have international roots. This group of Year 13 students all take A Level French. From left to right: Ginitha, Kaviniya, Karuna, Andra. Gini and Kavi are of Sri Lankan heritage and speak Tamil. Having both lived in France, they also speak French fluently. Karuna is of Austrian heritage. Andra is of Romanian and Russian heritage. All four girls were able to answer a great deal of questions from the International Education week homework with their amazing international roots! They are about to write to pen pals in France.



## Moderating with Falconers

Ms Morawska – Deputy Headteacher

Tuesday, 24th November saw two dedicated teams of staff, from Bushey Meads and Falconers come together to work together.



Their task was to moderate the marking and assessment awarded to students and ensure the gradings awarded are in line with the examination specifications and meet the criteria for each award.

This is an excellent opportunity for staff, from both schools, to reflect upon expectations and understanding of course requirements and a timely review of any updates from the examination boards.

Bushey Meads worked with their colleagues from nine subject areas and all gained from this peer review and discussion. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Bushey Meads staff for their work with Falconers and for our colleagues at Falconers, for engaging our staff with this excellent opportunity.

# Indian Prime Minister Visit to the UK – 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> November 2015

Report by Niteesh – 7Ash



The Indian Prime Minister visit to the United Kingdom was a historical event, as it was more than a decade since any Indian Prime minister had visited the UK.

The atmosphere in Wembley stadium was amazing, there were thousands of people with Indian flags, banners & they were shouting slogans.

This event was only on invitation - there were no tickets for sale. The football stadium was converted to suit this event. There were various cultural programs organised, there was a huge stage erected and the football ground was covered in rangoli representing India and the UK.

In no time the stadium was full with all invitees, there were more than 60,000 people. The event was packed with more than 600 people showcasing the rich culture of various parts of India (songs, folk dance music etc).

Mr Modi was accompanied by British Prime Minister, David Cameron. Mr Cameron mentioned in his speech that British-Indians are putting the great in Great Britain, and his speech was

cheered  
by all the crowd.



Narendra Modi was cheered by all the crowd when he started to speak. Mr Modi spoke on diversity as India's strength, he also mentioned he had two visions – a clean country and full time electricity in rural areas.

At the end there were loads of fireworks, to conclude the event.

# Rotary Young Chef Competition

By Amie Champion – 10 Sycamore



On Saturday the 14th of November 2015, myself and 10 other students from local schools cooked for a team of judges in the Rotary Young Chef Competition. We had to cook a main meal and a dessert in two hours, and set a table. The competition was at West Herts College in Watford. Mrs Hanbury, my parents and I arrived at 9AM, and were given our brief. We then set our tables and got all our equipment ready. We started cooking at 10AM, and served the two courses up at 11:45. By 1PM, a winner had been announced!

We were given a state of the art kitchen to work in, similar to the kitchen at Bushey Meads. At 1PM we were told who had moved onto the regional heats. The competition was so strong that there were three people at second place! Bushey Meads did not get into the next round, but the winners cooked really well, and were worthy of their position!

The food I cooked had a retro theme, so I typed up my menu on a typewriter, to add to the authenticity! Mr Chalkley kindly made a stand and background for the menu and Mrs Hanbury helped me make my meals the best they could be! For my main, I made Toad in the hole, with a red onion gravy and seasonal vegetables and for the dessert I made a strawberry shortcake. One plate stayed in the kitchens and was judged by the Head Chef of The Grove, and some of the chefs from West Herts College. The other plate was sent to the restaurant to be tasted by the Rotary club, and the public.

In conclusion, even though we didn't succeed into the next round, I learnt a lot about the catering business, and feel that I have benefited greatly from the competition.

## Outstanding A Level Lessons

Mr Turner – Executive Principal

One of the clear strengths of our A level provision at Bushey Meads is the fact that we have some outstanding and very experienced teaching staff. Our recent Ofsted inspection recognised that our staff know their subjects well and are keen to learn from one another and this is evident in the experience provided and outcomes achieved at AS and A2 level within our vibrant Sixth Form.

Just this week it was a real privilege for me to be able to sit in for a short period of time and observe an excellent A level English lesson. The enthusiastic students were gathered in a university-like tutorial setting with their teacher, Mr Dawson, facilitating the learning.

The learning activity was a debate about the play being studied, 'A Doll's House'. The question: Who was the most sympathetic character? And which character would an audience like the least? The discussion was lively with much difference of opinion, but a consensus was reached by the end of the lesson.



# Debating Society: Wednesday 25 November 2015

## E Pinkus

In preparation for next month's Hertfordshire Debating Challenge at the House of Commons, team 2 took to the stage today to argue their case: **This House would censor the internet.** Proposing this was Leon (year 10) and Cyntheiah (year 12). Opposing were students in year 8, Huda and Ryan who certainly gave the senior pair a run for their money.

Leon first explained the main core of this topic and clarified that it was not about the censorship of free speech but the protection of society against the misuse and abuse of the internet. Of course, the internet was originally not intended for public use but since it has developed into a world wide access it has developed a darker side, which must be addressed and dealt with. Cyntheiah argued alongside Leon and reasoned that modern technology demands modern strategies for ensuring safety.

Huda and Ryan upheld the democratic right of free speech and were fearful of the intrusion into privacy if the internet were to be censored. They reasoned that it would feel as if individuals were being monitored at all stages. However, as the proposers pointed out, we are monitored outside of the internet with CCTV cameras which are deemed to be quite popular amongst the people of the UK.

Questions challenged both sides. Who would enforce this censorship? How would it be regulated against the Black Hackers for example? Is this realistic? In answer to these questions, Cyntheiah and Leon demonstrated that this would be a forward strategy and would be developed with understanding and positive grounding.

At the start of the debate, chair Nathaniel (year 10) held a straw poll which showed the feeling to be more against the proposal. However, at the close, the majority agreed with Leon and Cyntheiah that This House would censor the internet.

Well done to both teams and to our chair. Thank you to all who attended. Questions asked certainly gave food for thought and our team will now work on their final delivery.

### Block inappropriate websites

Block the following types of websites:

- Dating ⓘ
- Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco ⓘ
- File Sharing Sites ⓘ
- Gambling ⓘ
- Games ⓘ
- Pornography ⓘ
- Social Networking ⓘ
- Suicide and Self-Harm ⓘ
- Weapons and Violence ⓘ

Also block the following websites:

Enter web address here



Please Note: The setting of categories and blocked sites may take up to 2 minutes to fully take effect.

Cancel

Confirm

# An Exciting Half Term of Performances

Mr Knowles – Head of Arts

After the energy and excitement of our Year 7 Arts Extravaganza, the buzz of performing continues to spread around Bushey Meads School.

We have been celebrating more of the outstanding work taking place throughout the Arts Faculty. Tuesday 17th November saw our governors treated to a selection of dance, drama and music performances. Mr. Futerill's year 7 drama class performed a powerful and moving piece that they had created themselves during Black History Month; our year GCSE dance students had their first experience of a formal performance together and the governors were thoroughly entertained by GCSE and BTEC musicians who concluded the event.

In the same week our BTEC Music students entertained an enthusiastic crowd with a mixture of cover music and their own compositions. The night ended with a wonderful rendition of Parklife, enjoyed eagerly by friends and family members.

In such a busy week it is no wonder our art teachers decided to get away from it all and accompanied A-level art, graphics and photography students to the cultural centre of Barcelona in order to gain inspiration and experience in the world of art.

We are now looking ahead to future events. Events that we hope many of you reading this will share with us.



On Thursday the 10th of December our incredibly talented A-level drama students will be performing two totally original plays. The students performing have dedicated many hours every week to ensuring any audience will see a truly fascinating show.

Then, on Tuesday the 15th of December we will be performing our annual Christmas concert. Great songs, some great dances, a selection of performance poetry and, of course, a glass of mulled wine with which to enjoy it all.

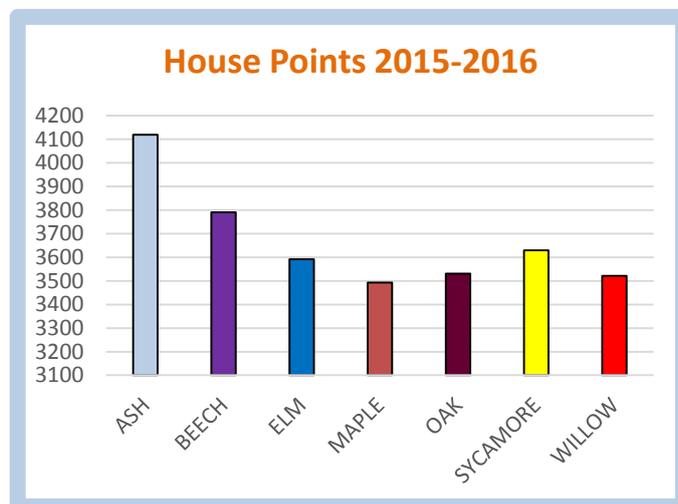
Photo: Edward, Lewis (and the brilliant Will on guitar - sadly out of shot) accompanied by Miss Brown during Governors' Day.

## House Points Update

Sara Ash, Assistant Headteacher

### Current House Totals

ASH	4119
BEECH	3790
SYCAMORE	3629
ELM	3592
OAK	3530
WILLOW	3521
MAPLE	3493



# Beech House Captains

Sara Ash, Assistant Headteacher

As the Beech House Captains of 2015/2016 we had to work hard to get to this position but luckily we had the drive and passion to get to this position. We wanted this position because we were and still are proud of our house and everything that it has achieved and what better way to show that loyalty than to become house captains. But of course we didn't *just* want to become house captains to brag about the the house, we felt that some changes could be made to improve the efficiency and sense of community amongst the entirety of Beech. PE is a subject that is very important to both of us and we felt that this area could be improved due to our defeat in the previous Sports day. This is why we both feel that more should be done to increase the physical performance of the house.



## Daisy:

I feel that people all around the school should be encouraged to do extra-curricular sports activities but I understand that some of the sports offered by the school do not appeal to everyone. Therefore, I will be passing information onto our head of house, Miss Ward, concerning clubs outside of schools which you want to see more of. Child Obesity is a serious issue in Britain and it should be tackled as quickly as possible and that is where you come in. I feel that everyone in the house should be considering taking part in at least one club within school so that we can not only strengthen the Beech community but the school one as well.

## Victoria:

For me, being a House Captain is all about trying to make sure that the Best Ever Elite Chief House stays at the top, where we belong! I know that we are currently second but we know that that won't last long- we're sure to break through! Last year I represented Beech as Deputy House Captain and, although that was a role, I didn't really have the opportunity to do much within that. Now, I would like to make a difference to this house and be a part of the community. So far we have had one Student Parliament meeting and a Beech meeting, in which, we discussed all about what we would like to change/what we like to bring up to other members of the Student Parliament. This year I'd say that I'm most excited about actually helping Beech to stay at the top because, acrostic poems aside, I think that we genuinely have the potential to be an even better house than we were last year. I guess that now it's down to the inter- house activities to make us show others that, even if sports day isn't our thing! BBBEEEEEECCCHHH!!



# Watford District Cross-Country Championships 2015

Mr Cartledge – Head of PE Faculty

On Thursday 19th November Years 8, 10 and 11 students took part in the annual District Cross-Country Championships at Aldenham Park. In wet and windy conditions the students showed great spirit and commitment. Special mention must go to **Euan Enright (7th Year 10 Boys)** and **Sam Farman (8th Year 11 Boys)** who both produced top 10 finishes against tough competition. Amongst the other notable performances on the day were:

## YEAR 8 BOYS

Jake Watt - 22nd

Christian Okeke - 34th

## YEAR 10 BOYS

Tom Williamson - 22nd

## YEAR 10 GIRLS

Jess Rosewarn - 11th

Olivia Mcmanus - 17th

Vicky Woolner - 34th

## YEAR 11 BOYS

Toby Peskin 11th

Andrew Fordham 13th

Well done to all the students that have represented the school at cross-country over the last week.

## Year 7 District Development Rugby Tournament

On Wednesday 18th November the year 7 team had their first experience of competitive school rugby in the District Development Rugby tournament. The tournament is aimed at introducing boys to the sport with the focus on participation and enjoyment. The boys showed great potential with 3 wins out of 3 with some strong tackling and ball handling. The boys can now look forward to the League season next term.

Match scores

**Match 1 v Bushey Academy Won 20-10**

**Match 2 v FC Academy Won 15-10**

**Match 3 v Westfield Won 15-5**

**Full squad :** Charlie Mainwaring, Max Musula, Tom Phillips, Reid sims, Archie Sykes, Taylor Bees, Shyam Pattni, Gabriel Meunier-Murphy, George Rowe, Leo Enright, Ben Peskin, Jess Harry-Brown, Jay Marsh, Jalen Sotomey, Toyosi Oyedeji

## Football

### Year 8 Boys Football v St Michaels (District League)

**Date:** Saturday 14th November

**Result:** Lost 4-1

**Scorers:** Kieran Barnard-White

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

**Comment:** This was a good performance for the boys even considering the score. They worked hard playing with 10-men and it proved difficult to stop St Michaels from scoring in the end.

### Year 9 Boys Football v St Michaels (Friendly)

**Date** : Sat 21st November

**Result** : Lost 4-1

**Scorers** : Conner Atkinson

**Squad** : Jack Leech, Josh Williams, Aidan Angold, Joe Manning, James Dodwell, Ethan Fiordelisi, Joel Smith, Josh Davies, Connor Atkinson, Conner Cameron

**Comment** : This was a very good performance by the boys who were forced to play with 10 men yet played some excellent football creating numerous scoring opportunities

### **Year 10 Boys Football v St Michaels (Friendly)**

**Date** : Sat 21st November

**Result** : Won 6 - 3

**Scorers** :

**Squad** : Julius Pazio, Aidan O'Mahoney, Jack Leyshon, Chris King, Callum Bedwell, Curtis Meale, Jake Zimmatore, Joe Blagden, Maciek Blasic, Euan Enright, Chris Osei, Victor Williams, Connor Freeman

**Comment** : Making the most of a poor turn out from the opposition the lads enjoyed a 9-a-side game where the performance in the first half was excellent, keeping possession and dominating play. Having a little fun in the second half, playing in unorthodox positions, the opposition got a couple of gifts from Callum the stand in 'keeper. However, overall the team was just too strong for St Michaels.

## **Girls Sports Results**

Wednesday 18th November- Tuesday 24th November

### **Polite Reminder**

Leggings are **NOT** part of the PE kit at Bushey Meads School. Students will **NOT** be permitted to wear them in PE lessons or when representing the school.

### **Netball**

#### **Year 9 - SJC**

**Date:** 18/11/15

**Opposition:** Watford Girls

**Result:** Lost 14-12

**Team:** R.Aravindan, A.Trivedi, J.Phillips, E.Houghton-Brown, A.Rashid, M.Bonyadi, B.Parker, R.Kulkarni, M.Sjollema

**Comment:** A great performance and not the result they deserved in probably their best match of the season. Well done year 9.

**Player of the Match** : Voted by the opposition Bella Parker.



#### **Senior - SW**

**Date:** 19/11/15

**Opposition:** Aldenham School

**Result:** Lost 22 - 14

**Team:** E. Charalambous, A. Leech, A. Sunpongco, M.Sharif, E. Bonyadi, D. Noel, S. Wright, E. Jarman

**Comment:** A closer game than the score suggests with the girls winning the last two quarters.

**Player of the Match:** E.Charalambous

### Year 7 - SW

Date: 23/11/15

Opposition: Reach Free

Result: Lost 3-2

Team: Lia, Ellie, Andrea, Jess, Bavhya, Gabby, Georgia, Isobel

Comment: A very close games for the year 7s which they could have won. Some excellent passing and moving on court.

Player of the Match: Gabby Z

### Year 8 - SW

Date: 24/11/15

Opposition: Habs

Result: Won 6 - 3

Team: Kanishka, Anna, Nicole, Kaitlin, Anais, Abi, Naomi

Comment: An excellent performance from year 8. Well practiced centre passes and very effective defence.

Player of the Match: Abi A

### Senior- SW

Date: 24/11/15

Opposition: Habs

Result: Lost 16 - 6

Team: A. Leech, M. Sharif, A. Sumpungco, D. Noel, E. Charalambous, E. Jarman, S. Wright

## Basketball

### Year 9 - SJC

Date: 24/11/15

Opposition: Partnership tournament

Teams participating: Queens a and b, Bushey Meads a and b, Yavenah

Team 1 - 4th

Team 2 - 2nd

Team 1: M.Bonyadi, R.Aravindan, A.Trivedi, G.Seargant, G.Bryant, L.Scourfield, S.Melsome

Team 2: A.Rashid, B.Parker, J.Phillips, S.Wright, M.Shah, F.Kelly, E.Houghton-Brown

Comment: This was the first competitive Basketball the girls have played this year and they put into practice some of the work they have done in lessons. Team 2 came a very creditable 2nd only losing to eventual winners Queens a. Although beating Queens b Team 1's best performance came against Queens a where they lost by only 2 points. As usual all of the year 9 girls were a credit to the school in both, their performance and the sportsmanship they displayed.

Players of the Tournament : Team 1: Sophie Melsome

Team 2: Jasmine Phillips and Bella Parker



## Boys Hockey

### KS4- SJC

Date: 23/11/15

Opposition: Rickmansworth

Team: S.Ladha, H.Bowden, K.Parr, J.Smith, B.Heels, Z.Hanif, B.Swan, N.O'Shea

Comment: In a tough match against more experienced opposition the boys acquitted themselves well putting up a constantly improving display. Great progress made.

Players of the Match : Sahir Ladha and Niall O'Shea



# House Art and Photography Competition

**DEADLINE 12<sup>th</sup> of January**

## Categories

**KS3**

**KS4**

**KS5**

**Art and Photography Students  
Staff**

## Two Themes

**‘Light’  
‘Progress’**

**A winner in each  
category and an  
overall winner will  
be announced at the  
exhibition on the  
19<sup>th</sup> January.**

**All entries to Mrs Waring in Art.  
Photographs via email in jpeg  
format.**

**Entries must have:  
Name, House, Year, Theme.**