

## Congratulations Harry



Top year 11 student Harry has already completed one of his GCSEs at an A\* grade. This will help Harry in his aim to get a top A\* grade from the government's new measure that is being introduced across the

country this summer,

which is the average of 8 best GCSEs (including specified subjects). This is what universities will be asking for; the highest so-called Attainment Eight.

Bushey Meads is capitalising on all our computer facilities and the computing work all students undertake by offering students the chance to take an online skills and problem solving test known as the 'European Computer Driving Licence' or ECDL. This is a GCSE level qualification under the new measures and will count in this all-important Attainment Eight.



Harry was part of our pilot group last week. He was very careful with the preceding diagnostic tests that revealed what he needed to focus on and so was correspondingly successful in the real tests. A further group of top students will be completing to an A\* grade in the next day or so.

After these successful trials, we will roll the programme out to more year 11 students during the enrichment day on 4th February, and the following day. Students taking part will also need to commit to a little of their own time, as did Harry, so that they can maintain focus on their other subjects during the normal school day.

Mr Fisher – Assistant Headteacher



## Dates for the Diary

### 2<sup>nd</sup> February

Y10 Parents Evening 4.30-7.30

Y11 Princes Trust Students visit to Watford Foodbank

### 3<sup>rd</sup> February

Year 12 & 13 PPE Surgery – 6.30-8.30

Y11 GCSE History- The Doctor Show Prom Pop up Shop 4.00-7.00

### 4<sup>th</sup> February

Y11 Maths Challenge

Y7 Trip Victoria & Albert Museum

Y12/13 Trip Miss Saigon 10.00-6.30

### 9-11<sup>th</sup> February

School Production – Oliver

*Half Term – 15th-19th February*

### 24<sup>th</sup> February

Y12 Parents Evening 4.30-7.30

# STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

## KEY STAGE 3



### **Anas - 09Sycamore**

Anas has been working really hard to engage in lessons and improve his focus with great results. He has been contributing to lessons in a positive way and is reaping the rewards for his efforts. Anas we are very proud of you, continue on this positive path and you will achieve your potential. Well done!

## KEY STAGE 4



### **Elin - 11Sycamore**

Elin has been chosen for her outstanding attitude to learning which resulted in fantastic PPE results. Elin is working extremely hard in preparation for the GCSE exams that commence in May and is hoping to replicate or perform even better than she did in November.

## KEY STAGE 5



### **Chelsea - 12Sycamore**

Our KS5 student of the week this week is Chelsea who is currently in Year 12. She has been awarded this for her outstanding attitude to learning, her positive attitude and her highly successful work placement at Little Reddings School. Chelsea is studying a full time childcare course in the 6<sup>th</sup> form.

# Word of the Week (WOW) at Bushey Meads

Danielle Bowe - Lead Practitioner for English and Whole school Literacy

## Language is empowering

Our word of the week has been cogitation. We have been encouraging year 11, 12 and 13 students in particular to cogitate over their futures and put the right steps in place. We also considered some famous philosophers who cogitate for a living!



**Word of the Week** 25.1.16

This word originates from c. 1200, "thought, idea, notion," from Old French *cogitacion* "thought, consideration, reflection," from Latin *cogitationem*.

**Pronounce it:** *coj-i-tay-shun* noun

**Definition**

1. the action of thinking deeply about something; contemplation
2. a thought; design or plan:

**Cogitation**

Cogitation is meditation or deep thinking. Big decisions should be made after *cogitation*. If people interrupt you while you're thinking, impress them by telling them to wait until you're done with your *cogitation*. This word, like the similar *cognitive*, has to do with thinking. Cogitation is an example of thinking, especially deep thinking. If someone is trying hard to remember something, they are deep in cogitation. Most people find cogitation easier in a quiet place, like a library. Engaging in cogitation is the opposite of acting rashly without thinking. If you like to ponder or mull things over, you enjoy cogitation. Cogitation means something similar to reflection and consideration.

**Use it instead of:**  
thought,  
contemplation,  
consideration,  
meditation, reflection.

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

**Examples in sentences:**

- "After much cogitation she rejected the offer and left!"
- "Samuel Pepys recorded his cogitations and daily events in his now famous diary."



## VACANCIES

We are currently advertising for the following positions at the school:

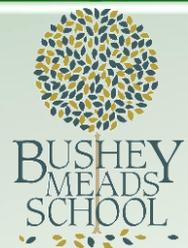
**Teaching Assistants** (for Physically Impaired)

**Pastoral Officer**

**Casual Exam Invigilators**

**Key Stage Co-ordinator for English**

Further information about both posts can be found on the school website under 'Vacancies'. Alternatively, please contact the HR Office on 020 8955 8833 / 8800.



## Looking to the future - September 2016



The Sixth Form at Bushey Meads is a very special place.

The interview process for sixth form begins week commencing Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February and Year 11 students will have received their interview dates and times to discuss their option choices for A level study.

We have received a very high number of external applicants applying to complete their A level studies with us.

The Head of Sixth form and his team are committed to ensuring that students gain the very best experience possible during their time in the sixth form, both in terms of academic success and personal development.

We look forward to welcoming them to our vibrant sixth form community.

# Languages focus: Year 7 day trip to Boulogne 2016

Mrs Dawson - Head of MFL faculty



Ever pet a snail?  
Now's your chance!



Ever made a croissant?  
Allez, on y va!



Coming soon: Year 7 day trip to Boulogne!

## Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

Sara Ash, Assistant Headteacher

Following consultation with the Student Parliament and school Governors it was decided that as school we should further promote the anti-bullying work that takes place and to introduce further support.

Students were particularly keen to have other students across a range of year groups in leadership positions, working alongside the staff Anti-Bullying Co-ordinators, who they could turn to for guidance and support if they felt they were being bullied.

Students wanting to apply for this responsible but rewarding position as a Bushey Meads School Anti Bullying Ambassador should write a short letter to Mrs Ash explaining why they would like to apply for the position and reasons why they should be considered for the role. The deadline for applications is Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February.

Successful applicants will receive full training and ongoing support.



# Catering Trip – Holiday Inn

Shannon Ballantyne – 12Elm



The year 10 GCSE catering students, were given a hospitality industry experience at the local hotel, Holiday Inn in Watford junction.

It gave the students a very useful insight into the challenges they may face in their future careers if they do proceed into the catering/hospitality industry, but also the immense bonuses that accompany the work.

We were escorted round the location by very friendly and helpful staff, who were open to answering any questions that were asked about their work or experiences. This in itself gave the pupils a first-hand account of how they dealt with certain situations they were confronted with during their time at the Holiday Inn.

John Pierson, head chef of the hotel was kind enough to let us tour the industrial kitchen and show the class the different elements of working in a professional culinary area. This was a memorable trip for the class as it allowed them to make decisions on what specific career path they wish to pursue, and helping them along the way. This was an overall success for GCSE catering, thank you Mrs Hanbury and Mrs Ellicot for arranging the trip.



## Uniform expectations

Sara Ash, Assistant Headteacher

A reminder that a high standard of personal appearance is expected of all students at all times. Uniform is enforced in order to promote an orderly working environment and to eliminate visible differences in the affluence of students' homes. The full uniform guidelines can be found in the student planners and is also available on the school website.

A few areas to clarify:

- Coats must be plain black or navy in colour (no denim, leather, patterned fabrics, 'hoodies' or items bearing logos)
- GIRLS - A smart plain black polyester/viscose skirt which must be no shorter than 5 cm above the knee and must not be tight fitting
- Hair should be kept neat and tidy and should not be dyed unnatural hair colours, be shaved off or have colours or patterns/words cut or woven into it. 'Cult' hairstyles are not allowed. If students come to school with hairstyles deemed to be inappropriate, their parents will be asked to have the hairstyle changed to an acceptable style
- Jewellery: one sleeper earring or stud per ear is allowed but must be removed for reasons of health and safety if required by staff. No cartilage piercings or ear lobe extenders are permitted
- Body piercings are not allowed. If students come to school with pierced body jewellery, they will be asked to remove it. Until this is done, the student will work in isolation from their peers

If there are any issues with purchasing the correct uniform we ask that parents and carers contact the appropriate Pastoral Manager.

# Revision Programme for Year 11 Students

Mr Arnold – Assistant Headteacher KS4

After the motivational PPE Results Afternoon at the beginning of January, Year 11 students are looking forward with renewed enthusiasm and determination to the GCSE examination season that commences in May and now only a matter of weeks away.

The Key Stage 4 team has worked closely with all faculties and has made available a range of opportunities for Year 11 students to make the most of the time remaining to achieve fantastic results in August. Some of these opportunities include:

- A **weekly revision programme** for Year 11 students
- Opportunities to revise in a quiet and supported study environment every Wednesday lunchtime in the Learning Resource Centre
- Tutorials that focus on revision and exam technique
- **February half term revision sessions**, including maths
- A comprehensive programme of Easter and May half term revision sessions
- A series of "Study Saturdays" after Easter

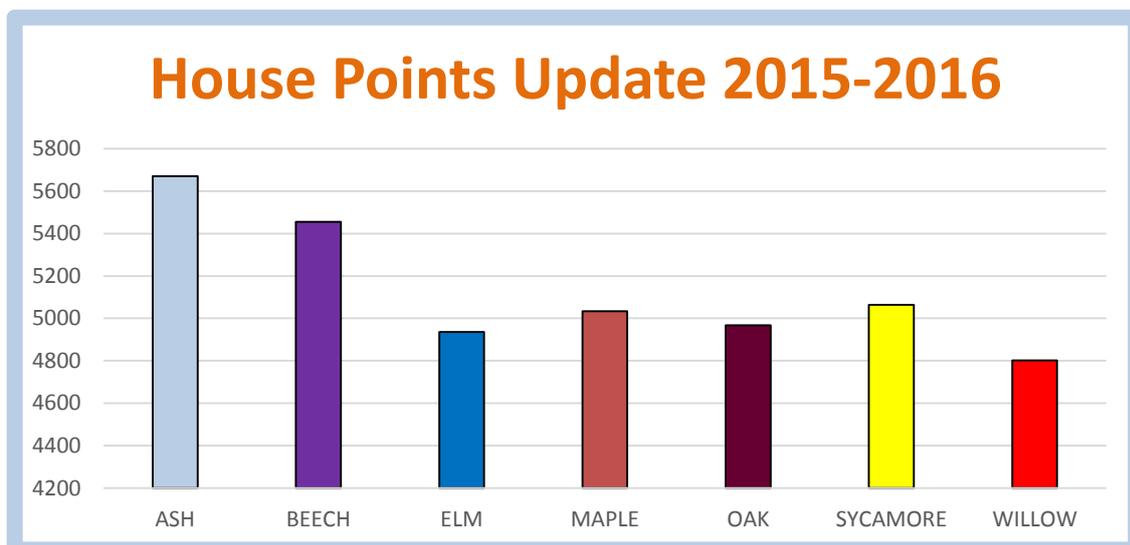
In order to make the **weekly revision sessions** as effective as possible, teachers will also be inviting students they particularly wish to see with the content and focus of these sessions evolving as the examinations draw nearer.

**Please encourage your son or daughter to make the most of these opportunities to ensure he or she realises his or her potential in the upcoming examinations.**

## February Half Term Revision Sessions

Date	Subject	Time
Monday 15th	Graphics - Coursework	9am – 2pm
Monday 15th	Business Studies	1pm - 3pm
Monday 15th	ECDL	9am-3pm
Tuesday 16th	Maths	10am -1pm
Wednesday 17th	Chemistry - Triple	9am -2pm
Wednesday 17th	History - Coursework	10am – 2pm
Thursday 18th	Chemistry - Additional	9am – 12pm
Thursday 18th	Biology - Triple	9am – 12pm
Thursday 18th	Physics - Triple	12.30pm – 3pm

Students are not required to wear uniform to Saturday or holiday revision sessions but are expected to remain on site for the duration of the session and will need to bring a packed lunch with them as there are no catering facilities. Registers will be taken.



# Sports Report

Wednesday 19th January - Tuesday 26th January

## Girls Swim Gala

Date: 25 /1/16

Mixed year group Girls - SW

Opposition: St.Margarets

Noticeable Results: Year 7 IM - 1st Place  
Year 7 BC - 1st Place

Squad: L. Wolstenholme, H. Barry, C. Haxhia, A. Hutchinson, L. Adams, M. Canonville, T. Canonville, M. Warnasooriya, M. Wray, M. Dowden, L. Dwyer. H. Kemp, K. Naid

Comment: An excellent performance from all girls. Every single participant tried really hard and never gave up. Some excellent relays from our younger students. Especially well done to Laura and Crystal who won their events.



## Girls Badminton

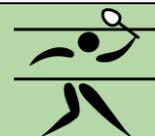
Date: 26 /1/16

Mixed year group Girls - SJC

Opposition: St.Margarets

Squad: A.Sunponcgo, A.Gerry, M.Parmar, V.Woolmer, L.Campbell, L.Parr, Z.Saley, T.Vardin

Comment: In a friendly match against St.Margarets the badminton team played really well and showed good improvements in their play. Special mention to Alysson and Abby for some great victories.



Arsenal Ladies Girls Football coaching will begin Tuesday 2nd Feb for 6 weeks.  
All welcome, on the Astro 3.15-4.15

## Trampolining Sessions with High Springers Trampoline club

Monday's in the gym - check the extranet and noticeboards for details



## Zumba - Tuesday's in the gym 3.15 - 4.15, all welcome

## Gymnastics Club - Wednesday and Thursday after school

## Boxercise - Thursday's after school, all welcome

## Athletics with Watford Harriers

Athletics club will restart on Tuesday 9th February - this will be an indoor session and open to everyone who would like to be involved in the indoor athletics team.

Bring kit and meet in the sportshall at 3.05

Sessions will continue throughout the Summer term on Tuesday evenings.



**SARACENS**  
School of *cheer*

CLASSES ACROSS HERTFORDSHIRE & NORTH LONDON

AGES 6-18YRS

Email: [cheerleading@saracens.net](mailto:cheerleading@saracens.net)

JOIN US NOW!

**Saracens Starlight's: Monday: 17.00/18.00.**  
Youth Age 6 - 11 years.  
St Georges School, Sun Lane, Harpenden, AL5 4EY.

**Saracens Spirit: Monday: 18.00/20.00.**  
Junior Age: 11 - 15 years.  
Ashmole Academy, Cecil Road, Southgate, N14 5RJ

**Saracens Supremes: Tuesday**  
Youth 17.30/18.30: Age 6-11 years.  
Senior: 17.30/19.30: Age 12-18 years.  
Presdales School, Hoe Lane, Ware, SG12 9NX.

**Saracens Sparks: Wednesday**  
Sparkles: Youth: 16.00/17.00. Age 6-11.  
Sparks: senior: 16.00/18.00. Age 11-16.  
Allianz Park, Greenlands Lane, Hendon, NW4 1RL.

**Saracens Stardust: Thursday: 16.30/18.30.**  
Senior Age: 11-18 years.  
Roysia School, Burns Road, Royston, SG8 5EQ

**Saracens Satellites: Thursday: 17.00/18.00**  
Senior Age: 11-18 Years.  
Queen Elizabeth Girls School, High Street, Barnet, EN5 5RR

**Saracens Storm: Thursday**  
Youth: 18.00/19.00. Age 6-11.  
Senior: 18.00/20.00. Age 11-18.  
Watford Woodside Leisure Centre, Horseshoe Lane, WD25 7HH.

Email [Cheerleading@saracens.net](mailto:Cheerleading@saracens.net)  
for further information!

BY KIND PERMISSION OF *MUSICSCOPE*, BUSHEY MEADS SCHOOL PRESENTS...

# OLIVER!

ADULTS: £7  
CONCESSIONS: £4

TUESDAY 9TH FEBRUARY UNTIL THURSDAY 11TH FEBRUARY

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM MAIN SCHOOL OFFICE  
(NEAR THE VISITS SAFE)

POSTER DESIGNED BY JOSEPH ROBINSON MINERS