

Year 7 Students First Day at BMS

Our new Year 7 students had a wonderful first day at BMS last Friday. They had the whole school to themselves so that they could really start to feel at home and be really confident at finding their way around.

Assistant Pastoral Manager, Ms Smart, organised a whole range of exciting activities guaranteed to establish new friendships and make for a really positive start to the learning journey through the school.



The day ended with a fabulous special assembly to which all our new Year 7 parents and carers were invited. Mrs

Smart and Assistant Headteacher, Mrs Wright, gave out some important key messages and

informed the parents and carers about the activities the students had completed on Day 1.



Students also read out poems they had written during the day and shared their Me Capsules - a great way of getting to know each other. A specially formed Year 7 Dance Group, ably assisted by our GCSE Dancers, performed a superb piece on stage. All in all it was a great first day and the start of a hugely exciting journey.



Dates for the Diary

Sat 10th September
SWHC Schools Academic Test

Thurs 15th September
Year 7 Settling in Evening

Sat 17th September
Technology Test Day

Mon 19th September
Year 10 & 11 visit The Royal Academy

Wed 21st September
Reserve Technology Test Day – 9am

Thurs 22nd September
OPEN EVENING
Students finish school at 12.20pm

Sat 25th September
Antiques fair

Tues 27th September
Year 12 Information Evening

Fri 30th September
Year 9 Geography trip to Brighton



A big thank you goes to all the Year 7 tutor team and all those involved behind the scenes – especially Mrs Smart and our superb Pastoral Administrator, Ms Jackman.

Mr Turner – Executive Principal

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

KEY STAGE 3



Nathan – 8Oak

This week's student of the week is Nathan in Year 8. Nathan has played an important role as one of our BMS buddies and has really helped in the transition of our new year 7 students. Nathan's dedication to the BMS community is highlighted by the fact he came home a day early from his holiday to help with the year 7 Induction day. Well done Nathan for all your hard work and dedication in your role as a BMS buddy.

KEY STAGE 4



Vinija – 11Beech

This week's student of the week has been nominated by Pastoral Manager, Miss Dhanecha. Having analysed the Pre-Public Examination results from the end of Year 10, it was apparent that Vinija has achieved some of the best results among the year group. Vinija has always been an excellent student who has worked extremely hard to secure the successes she has had so far. She's an asset to the school and we are very proud of her efforts and progress.

KEY STAGE 5



Elin – 12Sycamore

Elin has made a fantastic start to her studies at Sixth Form level after achieving 11 A*'s at GCSE. Elin can look forward to specialising in her favoured subjects now in 'A' level.



Dhanisha - 13Willow

Dhanisha can be very proud of her efforts in the summer examinations with two A' and two B's achieved. With similar focus this year Dhanisha is sure to achieve well in her year 13 studies.

COURTESY TO OUR NEIGHBOURS – Coldharbour Lane and Harcourt Road

On our first day back to school on Monday we unfortunately received a complaint from one of our neighbours in Coldharbour Lane reporting that two parents had parked across her driveway such that she could not access or exit her property with her car. She also reported that parents were parking across other neighbours driveways in the same manner.

Whilst I do appreciate that the vast majority of our parent body are very considerate regarding dropping off and picking up their child/ren, please may I stress the importance of everyone focussing on this issue and ensuring that they park with consideration and courtesy when dropping off and collecting. We all need to be mindful that the school is located in a very residential area and of the importance of being considerate to our neighbours by parking your vehicle responsibly.

Whilst writing on this subject, I would also like to take the opportunity to request that parents drop off and collect their children from an agreed location with your child that is a reasonable distance away from the school gates. This is a great help for all in terms of easing congestion around the school gates. None of us would want an accident to happen; please can each of us make this a priority for the safety of all.

Thanking you for your continuing support in this matter.

Jeremy Turner

Word of the Week (WOW) at Bushey Meads

Danielle Bowe - Lead Practitioner for English and Whole school Literacy

Language is empowering



Word of the Week 5.9.16 early 19th century: from *re-* 'again' + Latin *juvenis* 'young' + *-ate*

Pronounce it: *Re-juo-ven-ate* **verb**



Rejuvenate

Definition
-make (someone or something) look or feel better, younger, or more vital
-restore (a river or stream) to a condition characteristic of a younger landscape

When you make something young again or give it more life and energy, you rejuvenate it. For example, you can often *rejuvenate* a not-quite-dead plant, bringing it back to health with some water and some TLC. One way to remember the word *rejuvenate* is to break it down- *juve* sounds like *juvenile* — which refers to youth. Add the prefix *re*, which means "again," and the "ate" suffix, which means "do or make," and you've got "make young again" — the meaning of *rejuvenate*.
Sentence example:
At Bushey Meads, we feel rejuvenated by our restful holiday, exciting building work and fantastic exam results!

Use it instead of:
Kick-start, revive, revitalise, reawaken, restore, renew

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

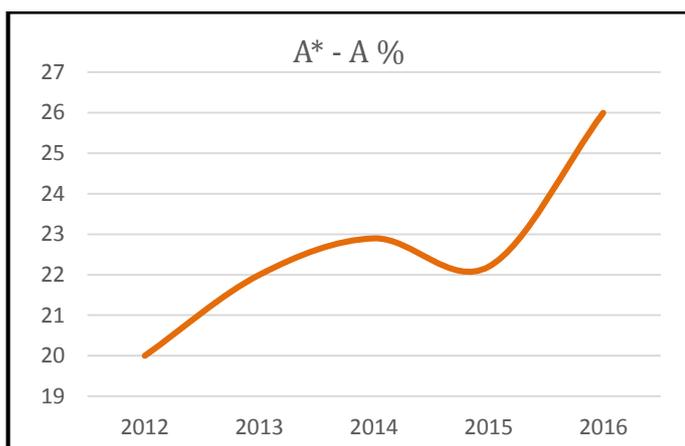
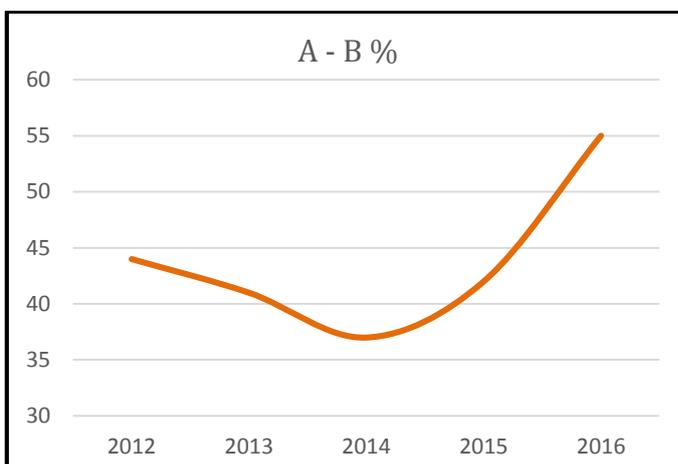
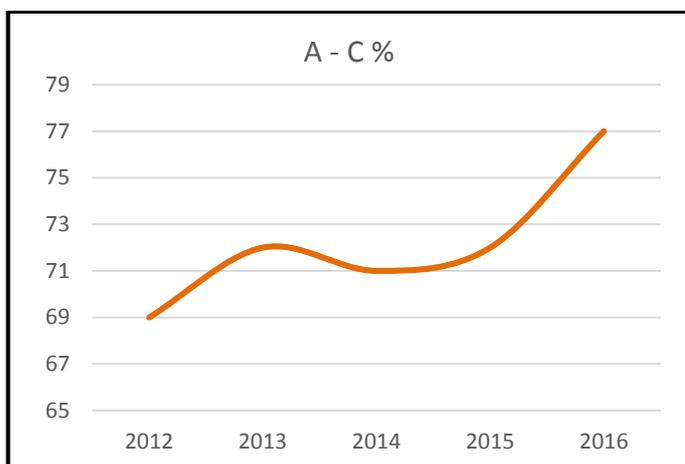
At the start of another busy year at Bushey Meads, we have made our first Word of the Week 'Rejuvenate'; very appropriate for new beginnings after a restful holiday and some exciting changes resulting from the building work!

Best Results for Six Years!

Mr Turner – Executive Principal

After seeing our students and staff work so hard over the last two years, as always fully supported by their parents and carers, it was absolutely amazing to see the sheer joy on so many faces on August the 18th and 25th for the A level and GCSE results days. Our school community is well and truly on a very exciting journey and everyone working together has achieved so much – Trustees, Governors, staff, students and their families.

The graphs below indicate the outstanding achievements of our students at Post 16 level.



With over 25% of the Post 16 grades being the top A* and A grades it was no surprise to find that a large number of our students secured some hugely prestigious places at some of the country's top universities.

The local press were very interested in our results at A level and GCSE level this year and I'm sure many of you might have read the very positive articles published in the last few weeks.

Watford Observer

A-Level joy for many schools and colleges beating their own records

Schools have enjoyed a record-breaking year for A-Levels while southwest Hertfordshire remains "punching above its weight" above the national average. Some schools reported record-breaking results as thousands of pupils across the county went through the joy, disappointment and sheer relief of A-Level results day yesterday.

At Bushey Meads, 100 per cent of students achieved a grade at A-level and 77 per cent achieved grades of C or above. Students gathered at the school from 8.00 am, some ripping open their envelopes in great haste, others taking their time as they conquered their nerves.

Results from Bushey Meads School in Bushey

100 per cent of students achieved a grade at A Level and 77 per cent achieved grades of C or above. 26 per cent of students achieved the top grades of A* or A.



Newly appointed to the school in September 2014, Headteacher Jeremy Turner said:

"We are really thrilled and delighted with the outstanding success of our students' A Level results again this year."

"So many of them have achieved their expected places at some of the country's top universities and the headline figures demonstrate that the school is continuing to provide a high quality education to students in the local area."

"I would like to congratulate and thank all the hard working and dedicated staff, students and their parents for their commitment and support throughout the year."

For students taking BTEC courses in the Sixth Form 94 percent gained the top grade of a Distinction Star and the remaining 6 per cent achieving a Distinction.



Assistant Headteacher with oversight of the Sixth Form, Sara Ash said about these and other star students:

"These students have made us all so proud and really do epitomise the strong culture of achievement that is reflected in our school motto *Aspire to Achieve*; so many of them have really achieved their dreams."

Students celebrate successful GCSE results across Hertfordshire

Students returned to their schools as they eagerly anticipated the results of their GCSEs. One in five students at [Bushey Meads School](#), Bushey, achieved at least five A* and A grades and nearly 80 per cent of students passed with at least five A* to C grades.

Headteacher Jeremy Turner said: "We are really pleased with the great success of our GCSE students this year. Many of them have achieved their target grades and the overall headline figures demonstrate that the school is providing a very good education to students in the area."

Isabella and Brittany from Bushey Meads School

Brittany Hughes, from Bushey Meads, said: "I did not expect to get the results I did." Brittany got three A*s, six As and two Bs. Max Venning from Bushey Meads got one A*, four As and three Bs. He said: "I am really happy with the results."

Well done BMS!

Mr Turner – Executive Principal

We love it when parents take the trouble to write into the school and give us feedback. Here is one example related to our exemplary transition process which has taken place over the last 6 months and ensured that all our new Year 7 students have made a really successful start to their learning journey at BMS

Positive Transition Feedback

Dear Mrs Smart,

I wanted to write to say how impressed I have been with the transition and information sessions the school has provided. Obviously we have been to a few more than other parents and have been made to feel very welcome and have been well informed every time.



The Parents Evening on Thursday 14th July was very helpful, even though I already have a child at the school. We also very much enjoyed the Family Fun Day, it was such a brilliant idea and great opportunity to talk to other parents and for the children to interact. I look forward to coming to my daughter's Celebration Assembly on the last day of term.

As you know I have a direct comparison of transition with another local school and I am very pleased with what I have experienced. I know how much work you have all put in and it is very worth it, as a parent it makes one feel important enough to be given relevant information about our child's secondary education.

I hope you have a super summer holidays and look forward to when (*son*) starts in September; thank you ever so much. Take care and best wishes to you and everyone working so hard to give our children the best they can.

Parent of Prospective and Current BMS Student

House Cup 2016-2017

Mrs Ash – Assistant Headteacher

A new year begins and all the House points are set to zero again. Which House will win coveted House Cup this year?

2014-2015 saw BEECH House win the overall House Cup with the most House points.

2015-2016 saw a close contest between ASH House and BEECH House with ASH being victorious.

The points tally for last year was as opposite:

ASH	11807
BEECH	11471
MAPLE	10656
ELM	10617
OAK	10577
SYCAMORE	10552
WILLOW	10134

Every individual reward point a student receives contributes to the overall House total. In addition there are bonus points throughout the year through the various House competitions. The first competition is approaching fast – the House Talent Show takes place on Wednesday 5th October at 3:30 pm. The Heads of House will be organising auditions very soon so interested students should get rehearsing!

BMS Sixth Form Enrolment 2016



With the outstanding results at post 16 this year and a growing reputation in the local area, it is no surprise that our Sixth Form continues to rapidly expand. With more students than ever before wanting to enrol on our eclectic range of courses on offer it has been a really busy time for the Sixth Form Team - brilliantly led by Mr O'Kelly, Head of Sixth. The photos above show some of the students attending enrolment interviews to secure their places at our Sixth Form.

With priority given to our existing Year 11 students (the vast majority having secured places) we have also seen record numbers of external students wanting to join us on our journey to exciting futures beyond sixth form at some of the world's most prestigious universities and with some top Level 4 apprenticeship providers.

On Monday morning for the first Main School Assembly of the year our fabulous theatre raked seating was packed with bright aspirant learners. I would like to wish them every success during their time in the BMS Sixth Form and also thank the dedicated Sixth Form Team for their hard work in making the start of the journey so positive.

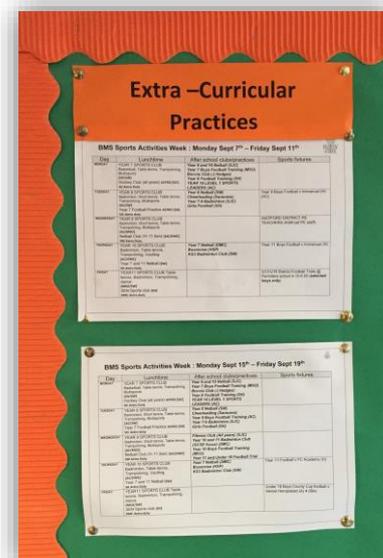
Mr Turner
Executive Principal

PE and Health Faculty News 2016-17

Mr Cartledge Head of PE and Health

The start of a new term sees the start of a new programme of sport and physical activity practices, clubs and competitive fixtures. Last year many of our students took the opportunity to build on their performance in lessons by attending the many extra-curricular clubs that are available at lunchtime and after school. This year we will be holding clubs in football, basketball, rugby, hockey, table tennis, badminton, gymnastics, trampolining, cricket, rounders, tennis, cheerleading, boxercise, yoga, fitness, SEN sport and athletics as well as our very popular lunchtime recreational sports clubs for each year group. Many of the clubs are run by the PE and Health Faculty staff with additional clubs being provided by the Hertfordshire Sports Partnership. Clubs take place at lunchtime and after club and this is supplemented by an extensive range of friendly, District and County competitive sports fixtures. All are free of charge and open to all students.

For full details of the clubs, fixtures and practices students and parents need to check on the **Bushey Meads School website** in the PE and Health Faculty icon where you will find a full list of the extra-curricular activities. This is updated on a weekly basis to show the fixtures and practices for each week. In addition students can check the **notice board in the PE lobby** and the changing room notice boards. The PE and Health Faculty also have their own **Twitter** account which includes regular updates on fixtures, match reports and details of forthcoming events.



@BMSPEandHealth

All students who attend sports clubs will receive Sports Credits and these are converted into reward points.

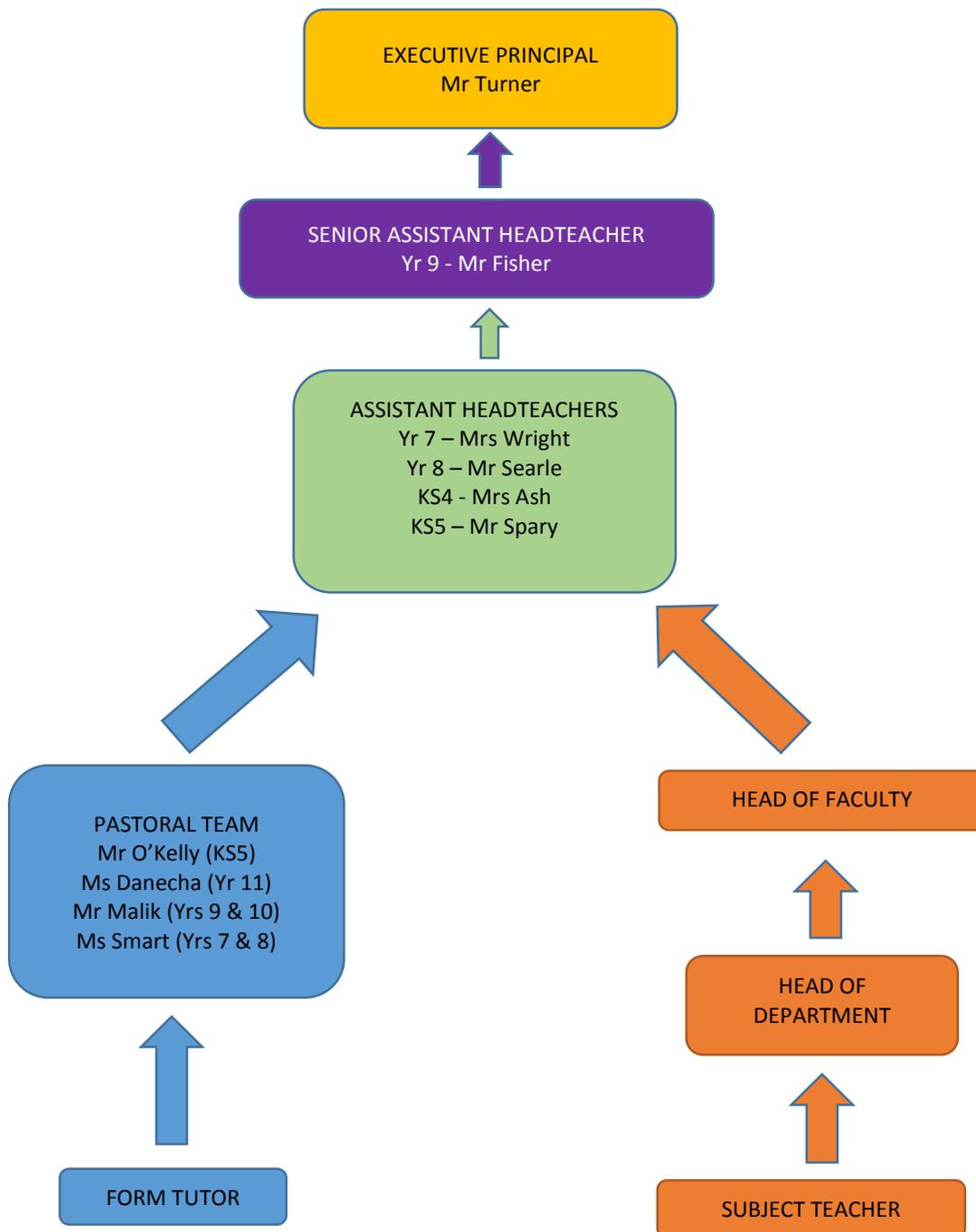
Clubs and fixtures have already started with the pictures showing our students in action. We will continue to report on the events that take place as the year goes on.

For any parental enquiries about any aspects of PE contact the Head of PE Faculty, Mr Ashley Cartledge: cartledgea@bushey.meads.org.uk. For any specific issues related to Girls PE and girls fixtures contact Mrs Sarah Cooper: coopers@bushey.meads.org.uk.



Channels of Communication

In a large school it is important to know who to contact if you would like to raise a concern or provide us with information. If you have a concern you would like to share with the school regarding your son or daughter your first point of contact needs to be the subject teacher or the form tutor. They can be contacted via the school email: reception@busheymeads.org.uk, marking it for their attention, or by telephone: 020 8950 3000.



Attendance

Mrs Ash – Assistant Headteacher

We all know that an excellent attendance record is crucial in order for students to maximise their learning opportunities and to achieve their potential. Research suggests that poor attendance such as **17 missed school days** a year would result in 1 GCSE grade **DROP** in achievement in all subject areas (DfES).

The following students must be congratulated for achieving an outstanding 100% attendance record for the academic year 2015-2016:

Year 7

Chandramouleeswaran, Menusha
Poprawa, Tobiasz
Thomas, Owen
Vasanthakumar, Kamsiya
Boselli, Franchesca
Keegan, Max
Allen, Rebecca
Barry, Hannah
Ponnusamy, Yuvan
Gunasegaran, Karthiga
Rathod, Zeal
Mitchell, Romi
Costello, David
Harverson, Jake
Plummer, Shantae
Padhya, Jitish
Patel, Deepa
Patel, Dhvani
Roberts, Lauren

Year 8

McKenna, Rachel
Sullivan, Lucy
Uthayakumar, Arunesh
Sindhi, Ayesha
Sriharan, Nathra
Wood, Jessica
Finley, Anna
Helyer, Maddison
Summers, Niven
Hingu, Pallav
Swain, Elise
Akaki, Marvin
James, Jack
Choudhury, Fahad
Hauff, Nicola
Shrestha, Avon
Collins, Tegan
Demir, James
Pearce, Ryan
Richards, Amy

Year 9

Livingstone, Chardai
Shah, Megan
Cox-Corp, Emily
Garrett, Benjamin
Fordham, Jack
Chang, Samantha
Dwyer, Louise
Hinkley, George
White, Holly
Ellis, Hollie
Wray, Molly

Year 10

Enright, Euan
Robinson, Aaron
Olyett, Daisy
Parmar, Maya
Thirucumaran, Vinija
Woolmer, Victoria
Anthony, Finley
Iqbal, Fatima
Kemp, Robert
Parr, Lauren
Blagden, Joe
Leach, Leon
Smith, Joel
Ward, Ella
Patel, Riya

The greater the attendance the greater the achievement.

What can you do to ensure outstanding attendance?

- Come to school unless you are ill enough to see a Doctor
- Don't take holidays in term time
- Try to make medical appointments after school
- Talk to teachers or your parents if you are worried about something

Attend and Achieve!

- If you miss school this will affect your **attainment**
- Make sure you **catch up** on all work you miss
-

Ensure your attendance remains above **96%**, allowing you to **achieve** your potential

Welcome to our new members of staff.....

By Mrs Armitage

With the start of a new academic year we have a number of new staff to introduce to you. These introductions will be phased over the next few editions of the weekly newsletter, working through the faculties, but we will start with the three new members of our senior leadership team (SLT) - our new Assistant Headteachers:

GRAEME SEARLE



With 14 years of experience in education, Mr Searle joins us from Rosedale Hewens Academy Trust in Hayes where he was Assistant Principal/Head of PE and Sport. He has chosen to move to Bushey Meads because when he visited us prior to applying for the post he was so impressed with the welcoming atmosphere, the high levels of achievement he observed, and the sense of the school being on an exciting journey. Now he is on board he says that he is finding the staff and students all fantastic and is really pleased to be with us 'on the journey'.

Mr Searle enjoys all sports but particularly rugby, golf and fitness and values family time. When I asked him if he has a significant achievement in life he would like to share with us I was suitably impressed to hear that he participated in a 'Tough Mudder' (this is a 13-mile assault course for those of you who have not heard of this before) which he completed for charity. He modestly also mentioned to me that he just missed the qualifying time to have then participated in the UK's toughest Tough Mudder!

Amongst his list of responsibilities, Mr Searle is the SLT link to Year 8 and he is assigned to Oak House.

EDWARD SPARY

Mr Spary was previously an Assistant Headteacher at Abbotsfield School in Hillingdon where he established their new sixth form centre which attained A-level results significantly above national average this year. His main subject is Politics and Contemporary History. Like Mr Searle, when he visited the school Mr Spary was also impressed with the calm, welcoming and professional environment and is now enjoying getting to know so many new people.



Travel is a particular priority for Mr Spary and football is his sport – he plays five-a-side and is an Arsenal supporter. Now that he has moved back to his home town of Watford however he did mention that he might consider visiting Vicarage Road in the near future! Mr Spary once sky dived from 15,000 ft – I am sure he will be setting his sights just as high at Bushey Meads!

Mr Spary has overall responsibility for the Sixth Form and is a member of Elm House.

LAUREN WRIGHT



Last but not least, I introduce you to Mrs Wright – another PE teacher, who joins us from The Henrietta Barnett School. Mrs Wright has a Master Practitioner Accreditation in Neuro-Linguistics and loves doing positive mind-set work. At her previous school she was a 'Director of Student Achievement' on the Leadership team, and Head of Faculty for P.E Her main observation when she visited the school was the positive atmosphere and commented that now she is on board she is finding the staff and students just terrific!

Mrs Wright enjoys running as a hobby and spending time outdoors. She will be taking the Year 7 Netball Club so that will tick both of those boxes before she even gets out of the school gates at the end of the week!

Mrs Wright is the SLT link to Year 7 and has joins Willow House.

Next week I will introduce you to the new staff who have joined our Maths and English Faculties.

Year 7 Raising Achievement Trip - Cambridge

Mr O'Kelly – Head of Sixth Form

Back before the summer break, all of Year 7 had the fantastic opportunity to visit Cambridge. With the trip aimed at raising the aspirations of the students with a tour of the famous university city and visits to two museums, all within one day's visit. With so much to cram into the day a fast pace was needed by all, with the guides showing small groups the little known secrets of the University. For example the £1million clock with dragon hands and the stories of the Night Climbers, who would play tricks on the University staff. The students particularly enjoyed the story of how the Night Climbers dismantled a Mini Cooper, climbed the building with the car parts and then reassembled it on top of one of the buildings!

The fast pace was tiring for lots of the students, especially as we all enjoyed a perfect hot sunny day. However, batteries were recharged during lunch in one of Cambridge's beautiful parks, with the students sharing the space with University students who were also out enjoying the weather.

In all, students experienced the feel of University life and asked the guides countless questions and we hope that it will encourage students to dream big and strive for success. We look forward to seeing these students applying for Cambridge University in the future.



FLAMES

New Junior Netball Club (U14s) starting - come and join in!

Starts Tuesday 13th September at 6pm to 7pm

at Watford Girls Grammar in the Sports Hall

Go to our website for Info:

www.flamesnetballclub.com