

Positive Parental Praise

Aspire to Achieve



It is always good to receive positive feedback about the work that we do for all students at the school.

Just last week we receive this very positive email.....

Dear Staff,

I have been meaning to write this for weeks now.

I would like to thank everyone who helped with the GCSE revision classes and in general how you managed the students and their study during that period.

I was especially grateful that you kept the children in school when they didn't have exams. It meant that I knew exactly where my son was and most importantly, that he would be studying.

If he had been allowed to leave the school, I am not convinced that he would have gone home to study and, being a working Mum, that would have been extremely difficult for me to manage.

So a great BIG thank you!

Ex-KS4 Parent

Dates for the Diary

12th October

Y11 Theatre Trip – Blood Brothers

13th October

Y10 Entrepreneur Live

14th October

Full Governors Meeting

21st October

Year 11 Revision Techniques Evening

4th November

Year 11 Parents Consultation Evening

10th November

Sixth Form Open Evening - 7-8.30

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

KEY STAGE 3



Tegan – 8 Willow

KS3 student of the week is Tegan for a fantastic effort on her recent assignment regarding Inspirational people. She presented a 17 slide piece which was outstanding and showed remarkable research and effort for a year 8 student. Tegan is also one of our BMS Buddies and has done some fantastic work to help the Year 7's settle into Bushey Meads this year. Well done Tegan, keep up the fantastic all round attitude and no doubt you will have a successful year!

KEY STAGE 4



Molly and Mia - 10 Ash

KS4 students of the week are Molly and Mia from 10 Ash for being excellent role models. Molly and Mia found a student's phone in the playground at lunch and came to hand it in to the student window in the Pastoral Office. Mr Malik was very impressed with how prompt the students were in handing the phone in. This is an excellent example to all of our students and we are very proud that you are part of the BMS community. Well done and a big thank you on behalf of the Year 7 student who was very relieved when his phone was returned.

KEY STAGE 5



James- 13Oak

KS5 student of the week is James who is currently in Year 13. He has been awarded this for his outstanding commitment to learning and his contribution to the school community. James is currently studying Law, Psychology and Religious Education in Year 13.

CONSIDERATION FOR OUR NEIGHBOURS

Unfortunately we have received several complaints from residents in the immediate vicinity of the school contacting us since our return from the summer break regarding parking issues around the Harcourt Road entrance. We understand that parents have been parking on the grass verge. Due to the wet weather we have experienced over the last couple of weeks this has ruined the grass. With winter rapidly approaching this problem will only become worse.

Please can we ask that all parents are mindful that the school is located in a very residential area and that everyone is considerate to our neighbours by parking your vehicle responsibly. This of course also applies to those parents who drop off/collect their child/ren at the Coldharbour Lane main school entrance.

Thanking you for your 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

This week at Bushey Meads we have been celebrating Black History Month and the strength and courage of inspiring people. Fortitude, therefore, is our Word of The Week.




Word of the Week

5.10.15

This word comes to us from the Latin – '*Fortitudo*', meaning *strength*.

Pronounce it: *for-ti-tude*

Noun



Fortitude

Definition

- Courage in pain or adversity*
- The quality of mind enabling you to face danger or hardship positively.

(*means a very difficult or unfortunate event.)

When someone has *fortitude* it means that they have emotional power or reserves and the ability to withstand difficult situations. People who have *fortitude* are described in an admiring way for their courage.

Eg:

- '*Although she was the smallest wrestler in the competition, Shelley's fortitude enabled her to take the trophy.*'
- '*It took real fortitude for Rosa Parks to make her brave protest against segregation.*'

Use it instead of:
courage, bravery, strength of mind, toughness

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

PE and Health Faculty News 2015-16

Ashley Cartledge – Head of PE Faculty

Year 7 Football vs Onslow (County Cup)

Result : Lost 1-1 aet 3-4 pens

Date: Wednesday 30th September

Squad : Jesse Harry-Brown, Taylor Bees, Harris Plant, George Rowe, Luke Andrews, Jay Marsh, Zakariya Khan, Charlie Bointon, Jake Norris-Ataie, Archie Sykes, Ben Castello

Scorers : Jake Norris-Ataie

Comment : A very solid display with lots of running. The squad worked very hard and were unlucky to lose out in sudden death penalties.

Year 10 Football vs Roundwood Park (County Cup)

Result: Won 4-2 aet

Date: Thursday 1st October

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

Scorers: Euan Enright, Victor Williams 3

Comment: In a close game, the solid defending and high work rate of the Bushey Meads players held off a strong opposition. Conceding two goal very late did not deter the team who came out in extra time and scored two more goals.



Girls Sports Results

Monday 28th September - Tuesday 6th October

Netball

Year 7 - DMC

Date: 30/9/15

Opposition: Bushey Academy

Result: Won 16-10

Team: Lia Flannagan, Ellie Rowe, Andrea Hutchinson, Georgia Brass, Jess Benveniste, Gabby Zhelyazkova, Bhavya Patel, Hannah Bailey, Isabel Hart

Comment: This was a fantastic result for the year 7 girls, they all worked really hard in keeping possession and defended well on court. A spirited and well deserved win.



Player of the match: Ellie Rowe for consistent shooting.

Year 9 - SW

Date: 30/9/15

Opposition: Bushey Academy

Result: Won 13-2

Team: M. Sjollema, B. Parker, M. Bonyadi, A. Rashid, A. De-Alwis, E. Houghton-Brown, A. Trivedi, R. Aravindan

Comment: Excellent movement on court from the year 9 girls throughout and consistent defence.

Player of the Match : Bella Parker

Year 10 - SW

Date: 30/9/15

Opposition: Bushey Academy

Result: Won 5 - 3

Team: M. Stefanov, O. McManus, L. Parr, V. Pratt, R. Bharmal, L. Campbell, C. Baldry

Comment: Excellent defence from the year 10s!

Player of the Match : Layla Campbell

Year 9 - SJC

Date: 06/10/15

Opposition: St.Margarets

Result: Lost 5-11

Team: G.Bryant, B. Parker, M. Bonyadi, E. Houghton-Brown, A.De'Alwis, R.Aravindan, M.Shah

Comment: In a tough match the girls worked hard against some very tall opposition, improving as the game went on.

Player of the Match : Melanie Bonyadi

Year 10 - SJC

Date: 06/10/15

Opposition: St.Margarets

Result: Lost 7-12

Team: M. Stefanov, O. McManus, L. Parr, V. Pratt, R. Bharmal, L. Campbell, C. Baldry, I.Hadland

Comment: A hard fought game saw SMB take an early lead and although they closed the gap BMS could not quite close the deficit

Player of the Match : Rezwana Bharmal

Girls Football

Year 7 - SJC

Date: 05/10/15

Opposition: Watford Girls GS

Result: Lost 2-3

Goal Scorers: Katie Branigan (2)

Team: S.Plummer, K.Branigan, V.Fordham, L.Wright, A.Elman,

B-R.Brindley, L.Roberts, F.Boselli, B-L.Coste

Comment: A great performance in their first match together from the year 7 team.

Leading at half-time BMS were eventually overtaken by their more experienced opponents, but they showed lots of determination and desire and great potential for the future.

Player of the Match : Alice Elman (GK)



Preparing for GCSE Examinations

Mr Arnold – Assistant Headteacher KS4

Year 11 students have all made an excellent start to their final year in Key Stage 4 and are all working very hard as time ticks away before the real GCSEs begin in May next year.

Year 11s will soon enter a very busy period of pre-public examinations (PPEs) at the end of November that will provide students with invaluable experience of writing under pressure in timed conditions.

Thorough preparation will be essential for success so getting the right revision strategies in place will make all the difference.

To help facilitate this, students will take part in a special **Revision Techniques Afternoon** in the Hall on Wednesday 21st October during which key members of staff will explain how students should revise for their exams. There will be interactive tasks for students to engage in and advice on what resources students should access to ensure they aspire to achieve.

Later that day from 6.30pm in the Hall, parents and carers are invited to attend a **Revision Techniques Evening** which will provide plenty of advice and tips from a parental point of view and give parents and carers the invaluable opportunity to experience revision for themselves enabling them to better understand the challenges their son or daughter faces when preparing for the exams and so be better placed to offer effective support.

We look forward to seeing parents and carers on 21st October from 6.30pm.

Chair of Governors Visits Bushey Meads School

By Mr Turner, Executive Principal

It was a real privilege to welcome Di Hoeksma our hardworking Chair of Governors to Bushey Meads School recently. Having heard all about the major changes to the learning environment and stunning achievements of our GCSE and AS and A2 students in August, she was keen to come and experience the school first hand.



Many of our students welcomed her into their classrooms and explained eloquently about the learning taking place and their positive experiences at the school. It was a fabulous tour and a real opportunity to showcase the very best of our school.



Needless to say she was very impressed and promised to feedback to all the Governors at the Committee meetings and Full Governors Meeting taking place later this term.

BMS School Restaurant

By Mr Turner, Executive Principal



Our School Restaurant has always been a lovely, inspiring hub of the school for students to gather before school, during break and lunchtimes and after school and is also well used for all school functions and evening events.



Work took place in the summer holidays to maximise the space and enhance the flow of students at peak times of the day.

New hand rails, a longer queuing facility for the pasta and sandwiches servery area have definitely eased the congestion at the entrance to the restaurant and students have appreciated these small but significant changes.

The addition of a third payment point which can be used at busy times has also improved the facilities further.



Last Friday a good number of our new Year 7 parents enjoyed the enhanced facilities and had lunch in the restaurant after a tour of Year 7 lessons.

They were very complimentary about both the food and the environment provided which we will continue to improve further over time.



The BMS LRC

by Mr Turner, Executive Principal

The newly re-furbished Bushey Meads School Learning Resource Centre has a real 'university feel' with stunning glass walls, state of the art IT facilities (including the latest SMART screen technology) and a whole host of superb books, journals and careers education advice resources for students aspiring to Vocational, Further and Higher Education opportunities after their learning journey at BMS.



Manned by an experienced LRC Manager, a part time Librarian and our very dedicated Student Librarians, the Learning Resource Centre at BMS is an even more popular and important learning hub in our school. Divided into three well-resourced areas (LRC1, LRC2 and LRC3), the space maximises opportunities for learning, reading, private study, class and group work and of course teaching – a real vibrant multi-purpose space. LRC3 (pictured below) is also designated as an additional Sixth Form Study Area when available.





LRC1 (pictured below) is where one of our superb Lead Practitioners for English, Ms Bowe, delivers her outstanding lessons and is also used as a student and staff training facility and for home learning. Ms Bowe, in her role as Whole School Literacy Coordinator, works very closely with Mr Back our LRC Manager to ensure that maximum support is given to all students at BMS so that results at all levels are as high as possible.

Do encourage your children to visit the LRC and make the best use of this stunning resource – recognised by the HMI Inspectors during the recent Ofsted Visit last week as an exemplary area of the school.

Debating Society News

E Pinkus

This House would not have sixth forms in schools was the subject of last week's debate, held on Wednesday 30 September 2015. There was a clear strength of feeling as the students entered the room and Chair, Kenneth year 8, held a straw poll to gauge the opinions of the gathering. At this point, the majority felt that schools should include sixth forms and so opposed the motion. All were asked to now listen to the speakers, ask questions and then vote on the strength of the arguments.



Speaking for the motion were two sixth form students, Deborah and James, together with year 8, Bethany. James began by pointing out the irony of two sixth form students proposing that schools should not house sixth forms. The point made was that to prepare for university and the independence of that experience was not sufficiently accommodated in schools, where perhaps there was too much reliance on staff and less on personal responsibility. Arguing against this were students from year 7, year 8 and year 13, Simran, George and Aliyah who held that to prepare these students, guidance was needed in the transition from GCSE to independent learning and entry to universities. As stated by Aliyah, we have a system in the UK that is envied and emulated across the globe. It is one of which we should be proud and thus maintain.

Questions were directed at both teams and responses made supported their arguments. And so to the summing up, given by Deborah and Simran. This left only the final vote. Kenneth asked all to consider the arguments and reminded the gathering not to vote from any pre-bias. There was a slight shift but the final decision given by Bushey Meads students was that there should be sixth forms in schools, and that the motion was overturned.

EXHIBITION CELEBRATING ART AND DESIGN

Mr Heywood – Head of Art

During the last week of the summer term Bushey Meads School held its annual exhibition of Art and Design at GCSE, AS and A Level. The exhibition also showcased the school's exciting film work produced in Media Studies. Parents were able to come along to share and celebrate with the students the success of all the work that had been produced this year.

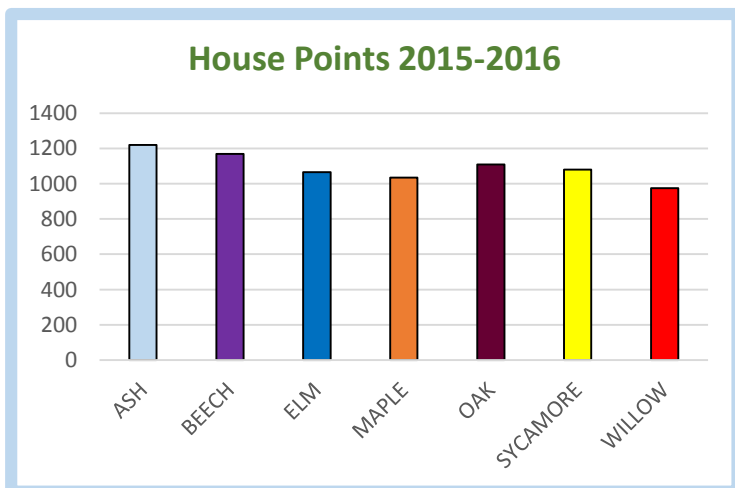
In order to share this work with the local community, a selection of paintings and designs from the exhibition is on view at Bushey Library till Friday

16th October. To give you a flavour of the standard of work, here are a couple of the work in place.



House Points Update

Current House Totals



ASH	1219
BEECH	1169
OAK	1109
SYCAMORE	1080
ELM	1066
MAPLE	1034
WILLOW	975

DEMAND Film



S. Cooper – PE Teacher

Those of you who were part of the school community last year will remember reading about some of our students being asked to create a promotional video for local charity DEMAND. The video showcases the work Bushey Meads does to fully integrate disabled people into sport. DEMAND have manufactured sets of sports equipment to assist such integration. Recently the video was aired at a gala dinner at Watford Football Club and helped, along with other organisations and individuals, to raise over £26000 for DEMAND so as they can continue their fantastic work in our community.

To view the video log on to: www.youtube.com/watch?v=1UvbtT5A8sE



Atlanta Falcons Fitness Project

S. Cooper – PE Teacher



Just a reminder that year 7 students should be logging their participation in sport hours on the Atlanta Falcons document shared with them. It's not too late to start participating in the program.

Reward points for the first week were given to: Luke Georgiou 7M and Betty-Louise Coste 7B, more points are up for grab this week.

Y10 WORK EXPERIENCE

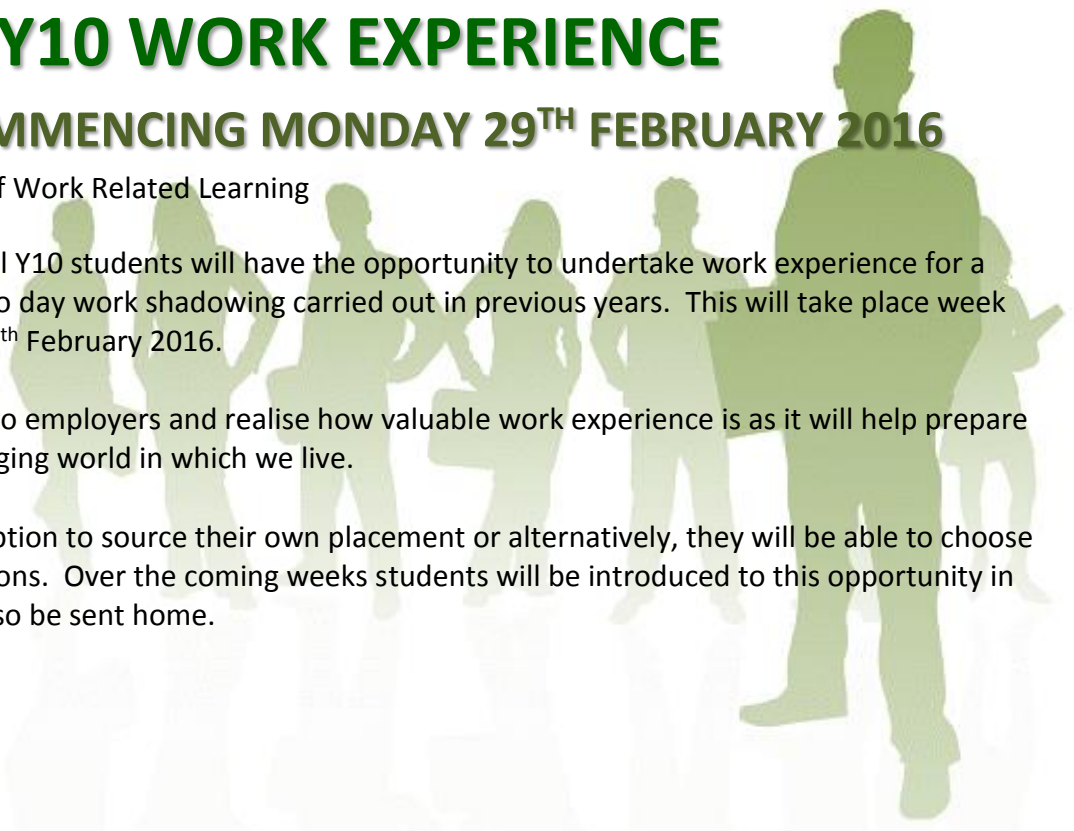
WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY 29TH FEBRUARY 2016

Mrs McIlldowie – Head of Work Related Learning

For this academic year all Y10 students will have the opportunity to undertake work experience for a week rather than the two day work shadowing carried out in previous years. This will take place week commencing Monday 29th February 2016.

We have been listening to employers and realise how valuable work experience is as it will help prepare our students in the changing world in which we live.

Students will have the option to source their own placement or alternatively, they will be able to choose one from Youth Connexions. Over the coming weeks students will be introduced to this opportunity in school and letters will also be sent home.



Friendship Group!

By Louise (9Maple) and Lana (9Maple)

This article is about the wondrous friendship club.

Friendship club is a place that brings people together and helps new students become more confident about themselves and more the types of people around the school. You can meet new friends, have fun with other people around.

Say you were a year 7 and you didn't know many people. Come to friendship club and meet some new people.

How friendship club has grown:

Friendship club has grown so much and we think this club is very successful in many ways such as:

- The amount of friends we have all made
- More people have been coming since we started year 7 each week.



Now we are in year 9 and friendship just started off in a small room in G block now we have had to move into a proper classroom in A block.

It's not as cheesy as it sounds, it's just hyperactive but in a good way. It's just a place to have fun and meet new people.

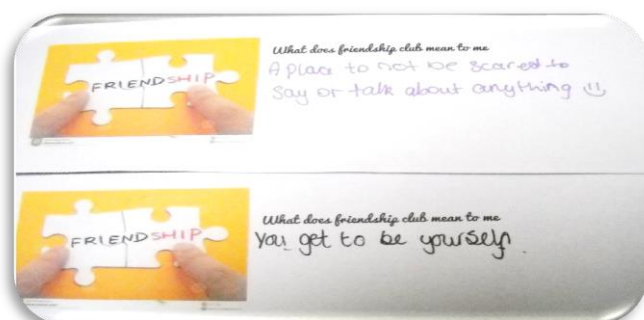


Comments by Friendship students

It means alot because I am spending time with my friends

It means being safe and not being judged and being happy

A place to meet fabulous people



Stoke Mandeville National Junior Games

28th September – 1st October

Nicky Day – Team Leader TAPiS



Last Monday heralded the start of this year's long-awaited National Junior Games. We travelled by minibuses with seventeen excited students (our highest number of athletes to date) to the stadium at Stoke Mandeville. Here they experienced "Have-a-Go" sessions and competed in a wide variety of sporting competitions over the four day event: track and field athletics, snooker and pool, zone hockey, wheelchair basketball, fencing, rowing, table tennis, table cricket, polybat, tennis, golf, shooting, archery, powerchair football, handcycling, seated volleyball and badminton. Many of our students reached semi-final and final positions and there were numerous exciting play-offs. Some of the students found time for a swim too!



BMS entered two teams for the zone hockey tournament and both played some fast, energetic and exciting games - there were nail-biting finishes and some inspirational goalkeeping!



On the track our team excelled in the running races with our students, cheered on from the side, taking first, second and third places in both the 60m and 100m races. On the field, our students also made great progress in shot, discus and javelin. Archery was, as usual, a popular event, and most of our team managed to have the opportunity to shoot some arrows!

Wheelchair football was a resounding success again. Following last year's event, three of our team now play regularly together at Woodside Stadium.

Kai Shah played brilliantly in the boccia competition and won several matches despite the really tough competition this year.

Ellie Grayling was identified as having great potential in the shooting gallery and spoke with the coaches about attending the

Paralympic shooting club on a regular basis - the centre of each of her target cards were peppered with holes!



Lee Keogh, attending the Games for the fourth year, was interviewed by BBC Southern, and appeared on TV on the Tuesday evening.

One of the highlights was the disco on Wednesday night where all athletes come together in a mass celebration in the sports hall. The Bushey Meads team had decided on a "Band" theme this year

and all turned up with inflatable air guitars, saxophones and microphones!

All our students received medals for participating; the presentation of certificates will be taking place later this term.

Students and staff had a fantastic, though exhausting, time, all saying that it was “the best ever” and are already looking forward to the 2016 event! Staff who supported on the trip feel privileged to have been part of such a memorable and inspiring four days. A big thank you to everyone!

Attendees: Tristian Blomfield, Grace Bonner, Meesha Kanani, Ben Lawson, Lee Keogh, Megan Hughes, Hannah Spriggs, Chloe-Mai Carpenter, Sarthak Kanel, Matt Archer, Ellie Grayling, Nicola Hauff, Jack James, Parag Sangani, Kai Shah, Daniel Adebajo and Francesca Martin.



Year 7 Parent tours at BMS

Mr Fisher – Assistant Headteacher

Parents and carers of Year 7 students dropped by for lunch last Friday.



BMS buddies (our superb Year 8 ambassadors) first took the parents on a tour, visiting their own child's lessons, and then the parents joined their children for lunch in our busy restaurant. Many parents stayed on through the lunch break and wandered in the playground, some taking the opportunity to visit our fabulous new library and resources centre.

Parents were amazed at how our top chef, Nathan, and his team, manage to create such great quality, taste and portion size for so little. Here are some of their comments from the morning -

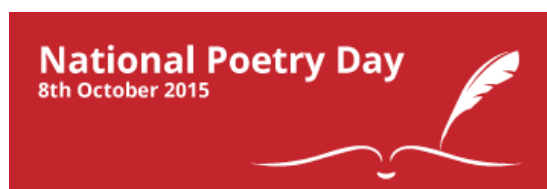
Rebecca's parent: "It's lovely that we are included in the school in this way. The food was excellent, nothing like the school meals in our day, aren't they lucky!!!"



Betty's parent: "Hot dinner and pudding for £2.10 - delicious by the way!"

Archie's parent: "I think the tour and lunch is a great idea."

Niteesh's parent: "Very nicely managed especially by the year 8 Ambassadors".



House Poetry Competition 2015

by Sara Ash, Assistant Headteacher

National Poetry Day is being held on Thursday 8th October this year. We are linking our House Poetry Competition to this day and launching our second House Poetry competition. All entries will receive reward points that will also contribute to the House point totals. There will also be winners in the following categories:

- Overall Winner
- Junior Category Winners (7,8 & 9)
- Senior Category Winners (KS4 & KS5)
- Highly commended

The theme of National Poetry Day this year is "Light" so all poems need to be linked in some way to this theme.

All students wishing to enter the competition must ensure they hand a paper copy of the poem with their NAME and FORM clearly written on it to their Form Tutor. Deadline for entries is Friday 23rd October.

Excellent Student Learning Consultant (SLC) Applications Received

Ms Morawska, Deputy Headteacher

SLC

I am applying for the role of a student learning consultant because I think I would contribute greatly to the schools education units, extra curriculum clubs and the whole school in general. I deserve this because I have no bad behaviour points, I also have thirteen achievement points so far. I would attend all meetings if possible and make sure that if a visitor or a staff member asks questions during class, that I answer them appropriately giving all the information I know.

Thank You,
Sincerely Holly Kemp,
Year 9 Beech.

Holly Kemp, 9Beech

As part of the SLC application process I have been extremely impressed with the high standard of applications that have been received to date.

It is encouraging to read the many qualities and skills the students feel they can bring to the role and how these can be utilised and developed as part of this important responsibility.

All our SLCs are easily recognisable from their red lapel badge, which Holly Kemp has beautifully illustrated.

The first SLC meeting will be held after school on Tuesday 13th October in G2.

Hassan Naz, 12Maple
Senior Student Learning Consultant (SSLC)

My name is Hassan and I am currently in year 12 studying Maths, Physics, Biology and History. I am sending you this email in regards to obtaining a role as a SLC member.

I am interested in this role because I believe that I can make positive contribution towards the schools educational system. This role would be good for my personal statement when it comes to applying for University. I would like to become an SLC member in Maths as I achieved an A in this subject at GCSE. If I was to get this role it would benefit the students and myself as I have an interest in helping out others to ensure they can meet their full potential.

Thank you for your consideration

Hassan Naz, 12Maple

Jesse Harry-Brown, 7Ash

I am writing to you today to ask for a Spot as a Student Learning Consultant.

The reason I would like this job because my communications Skill are spot on and this is an ideal skill for a learning consultant.

Secondly, I strongly ~~am~~ think that without a good education we can go no where and at bushey meads I want everyone including myself to shoud get a good education

A clever person like yourself knows that I will be the suitable fit for a learning consultant

Please consider my letter and thank you for taking from time to read this letter

Yours ~~truly~~ Sincerely,

Jesse Harry - Brown 7ASH

Theme of the Week – EQUALITY

The theme of the week this week is “Equality” which coincides with “Black History Month”. Mrs Ash, Assistant Headteacher, led the whole school assemblies on what equality really means and highlighted some famous people who have made their voice heard. The assembly looked at different forms of discrimination including race, age, gender, ability and sexuality.



Form tutor time focused on “Black History Month Heroes” with discussions based around influential figures from History and their fight for Equality.

The theme this week has highlighted how the Bushey Meads Community is an inclusive environment with much to celebrate.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW ENGLISH TEACHERS

By Mrs Armitage, PA to Executive Principal

Following the article on our new Lead Practitioners who joined the English Faculty at the start of the year, we would now like to introduce you to our three additional English teachers who have also joined the faculty. In no particular order here’s a little background information on each of them.



MR LIAM LESTER says: The aspect of teaching that I enjoy the most is the look on students' faces when they understand a concept for the first time. Hopefully this has happened because I've facilitated a process which has led them to that understanding.

To give you a little information about myself beyond the classroom, my hobbies/interests would suggest a magpie approach to life - as a church organist, I have a thing for grand, Victorian hymns; as a football fan, I despair at the fortunes of my club, Aston Villa; and as a proud Brummie, I follow my city's progression to architectural magnificence. It should be noted that I admire the writings of Gerald Durrell, Agatha Christie and Roddy Doyle.

I have been touched by the welcome I've received from students and staff at BMS. I think the school is a credit to the community and I look forward to the rest of the year with eager anticipation.

MISS CHARLOTTE VELLA joins us from Ashcroft High School, Luton. She has been teaching English for three years now and when asked why English she explained her passion for passing on her love of the subject. Miss Vella is a keen horse-rider, and loves to get to the theatre when she can. She too mentioned how friendly and welcoming the students and staff have been to her.



MR NEIL FITZGERALD has been teaching English as a foreign language for over 11 years, in countries as far afield as to include Vietnam. He has been back in the UK for a couple of years or so and joins us from St Albans School of Languages. He explained how he enjoys teaching as it provides him with the opportunity to inspire and instil the love of reading – to win over those who say they don't like reading he cited. He claims there is a poem somewhere for everyone that will inspire them.

Beyond the classroom, Mr Fitzgerald enjoys creative writing and reviews books for The Times Literary Supplement. Hiking is also a keen passion for him and he gave an example of when he has camped wild in Corsica, hiking to 10,000ft unaided.

We wish them all a long and successful career at Bushey Meads School.



Aspire to Achieve



BUSHEY
MEADS
SCHOOL

Sixth Form OPEN EVENING

Tuesday 10th November 7-9pm

'An outstanding and inclusive 6th form'

'Students are making better progress than all students nationally at A level' Ofsted 2012

Coldharbour Lane, Bushey, Herts WD23 4PA www.busheymeads.org.uk

