

## Focussed English Raising Achievement Sessions



It was really encouraging to see so many hard working Year 11 students attending the English Coursework Session on Friday after school last week. Led each and every week by our outstanding Lead Practitioner for English, Miss Farook, the students were not only really enjoying the focussed session, but were also seriously improving their chances of success in the summer GCSE examinations by improving their coursework/controlled assessments – for some students by as much as 2 whole grades!

Many staff are leading similar sessions and I would encourage you as parents to make sure that you have a copy of the weekly and Easter revision schedule and ensure that your son or daughter attends those that are relevant to them, so that they have every chance of success.

Also don't forget to look out for the all-important Study Saturdays led by Mr Back, our Learning Resource Centre Manager – starting soon!

Mr Turner  
Executive Principal

## Dates for the Diary

### 21st March

Y11 PPE Drama Performance

### 22nd March

Y8 Parents Evening 4.40 – 7.30

### 23<sup>rd</sup> March

Term Ends 12.20 pm

Y11 Mock Drama Performance 12.30-3.30

### Mon 11<sup>th</sup> April – Term Starts

Staff Development Morning

**Please note that students are expected to arrive at school by 10:45 a.m. ready to register in the form tutor groups at 11.00:a.m. Lesson 3 will start at 11:20 with the remainder of the day running as normal. School buses will be arriving at school for 10:45 a.m.**

### 13<sup>th</sup> April

Governors Meeting

# STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

## KEY STAGE 3



This week's KS3 student of the week is Zuzanna. Zuzanna is an exceptional student, enthusiastic and always willing to go the extra mile to help. Zuzanna has been part of the Oliver cast, is a BMS buddy and has an amazing amount of reward points and no behaviour points. Keep up the good work Zuzannah.

## KEY STAGE 4



This week's student of the week for Key Stage 4 has been nominated by the Senior Pastoral Manager, Miss Dhanecha. Daisy has been nominated for her continued efforts in working towards securing some high grades in her GCSE courses. Daisy's excellent attendance and work ethic has been consistent throughout the year and I am confident that she will achieve at the highest level in August. Daisy has also fully engaged in the Reach for the Stars programme and we wish her well for the rest of the year. Well done Daisy! Keep it up!

## KEY STAGE 5



### **Megan 13Elm**

Our KS5 student of the week is Megan who is in year 13. She has been given the award for her community service to the school by her support and initiative in photographing extracurricular activities, including the Year 10 Rugby County Cup Final. Megan is currently studying English, media and drama.

# Word of the Week (WOW) at Bushey Meads

Danielle Bowe - Lead Practitioner for English and Whole school Literacy

## Language is empowering

At Bushey Meads, not only are the MFL department celebrating international Francophone week, the Science department are immersed in national Science Week. In support of both these subjects we have not one, but two words of the week!



**Word of the Week** 14.3.2016 1900, from *Franco-* "French" + *-phone* "-speaking."

**Pronounce it: frank-o-fone**

**Definition**  
-French speaking; **Adjective**  
-Person who speaks French. **Noun**

**Francophone**

**FRENCH**  
WHERE IS IT SPOKEN?  


March 20<sup>th</sup> is International Francophonie day and the MFL faculty are celebrating!  
There are 77 member states of 'International Organization of La Francophonie' and on the 20<sup>th</sup> they will be celebrating the French language and Francophone culture. Did you know there are over 274 million French speakers on Earth?  
As of 2015, there are 29 independent nations where French is the official language.

**Example:**  
- Jenny travelled on business to Francophone West Africa recently, where she was proudly able to practise her French speaking.

**Use it instead of:**  
French speaking.

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

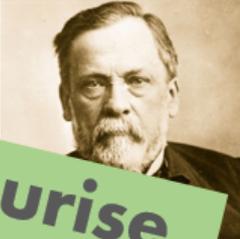


**Word of the Week** 14.3.2016 late 19th century: from the name of Louis Pasteur + *-ise*.

**Pronounce it: past-ver-ise**

**Definition** **Verb**  
-a process of specially heating food in order to kill harmful micro organisms

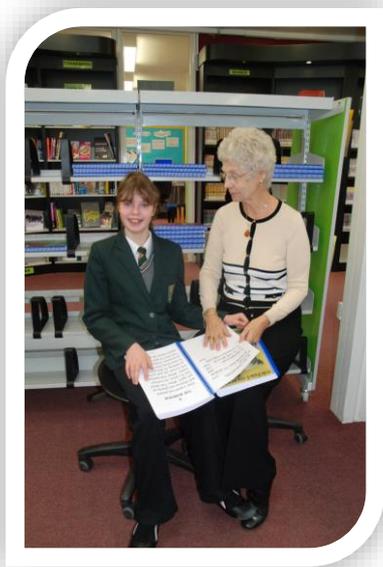
**Pasteurise**



**Louis Pasteur (1822-1895): The man who led the fight against germs.**  
Few people have saved more lives than Louis Pasteur. The vaccines he developed have protected millions. His insight that germs cause disease revolutionised healthcare. He found new ways to make our food safe to eat.  
Pasteur was the chemist who fundamentally changed our understanding of biology. By looking closely at the building blocks of life, he was at the forefront of a new branch of science: microbiology.  
For two thousand years, people thought life appeared spontaneously, believing fleas grew from dust, or maggots from dead flesh. Pasteur finally disproved this theory in an elegant experiment. He showed that food went off because of contamination by microbes in the air. He went on to argue that these could cause disease. His 'germ theory' was controversial, not least because he was a chemist not a doctor, but it led to the development of antiseptics and changed healthcare forever.

**Watch Adam Rutherford recreate the experiment that proved Pasteur was right. Clip from The Cell (BBC Four, 2009)** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/timelines/z9kj2hv>

Mr. Back - LRC Manager



It was an absolute pleasure to see the delight on Francesca's face when the new LRC resources arrived to support her during her Literacy lessons with me in the LRC.

Blind Children UK, formerly the National Blind Children's Society, is the leading charity for children and young people who are blind or visually impaired.

I contacted Blind Children UK to talk about the various resources they produce and it was an amazing moment during the telephone conversation when I established that one of the services they provide are the most current and topical KS3 books in large type print suitable for secondary school pupils with visual impairment.

We now have a fantastic new section of these resources in the LRC and it's wonderful that Francesca will be able to borrow books that she can also take home with her each week.



## Year 10 Textiles trip to Needlecraft

Miss Pattni

On Thursday 25th February the year 10 GCSE textiles class visited a fabric shop in Hemel Hempstead called Needlecraft. The purpose of the trip was to look at different fabrics and components available to us which we could use for our current project. The project we are currently working on is to create a garment, either a skirt or pair of trousers, which could be sold at a music festival with the theme being Swinging Sixties, Gothic or Punk Rock.



When we first arrived at the shop it looked small, but inside it was like Aladdin's cave! They had a fantastic variety of fabrics in many different colours and beautiful patterns. As well as fabric there was lots of wool, components and trimmings, which grabbed the attention of a few of us.

After going on the trip, we all had a better understanding of available fabrics and some of their properties. This is going to be helpful in future projects as we will have an idea of fabrics we could use, the fabrics that are suitable for garments and the quantity we would need.

From the trip we also gained the knowledge of how fabric is measured and sold, as well as how to ask for the fabric we needed and familiarising ourselves with how it is costed. The most enjoyable thing for everyone was seeing what fabrics and components were available to us and being able to buy and use them for our garments. Thank you to Miss Pattni for organising for our class to go on this visit!

# Careers Guidance and Work Related Learning at Bushey Meads School

Mr Turner, Executive Principal

One of the key areas of our school is led in an exemplary way by Mrs McIldowie, our superb Head of Work Related Learning – ably assisted by Mrs Biggerstaff. Being such an important area of school life, our Governors' Teaching and Learning Committee (who met on Wednesday evening last week) asked Mrs McIldowie to join them at the meeting and present to the committee about the comprehensive programme offered at our school.

Building right from Year 6, even before our students join us here at BMS, we work alongside our parents and carers to help and guide them all the way through their learning journey and on to college, sixth form, university and employment.

The governors committee were really impressed with the attention to detail and the level of support and advice provided to all students at the school. There were some good questions asked at the end of the presentation and some timely positive feedback from the recent experience of our Year 10 students who have just returned from a week of work experience. Without exception, all our Year 10 students were superb ambassadors for the school and also learned an awful lot about what it is like to be in the work place. Some of them were even happier to be back in school! For many it has spurred them on to work hard in school to achieve the top grades possible so that as many doors as possible are opened in the future.



We were also joined at the Committee meeting by an experienced local Primary Headteacher, Valerie Hudson, (from Hartsbourne Primary School) and her Chair of Governors Tina Candler, who were keen to attend a Bushey Meads' Governors meeting and see exemplary governance in action. With the excellent presentation from Mrs McIldowie and all the reports presented about the increasingly good and outstanding teaching and learning and curriculum initiatives that are having such an impact on raising achievement, they were certainly not disappointed and really valued the experience we provided.

**A proud day for leadership and management at BMS!**

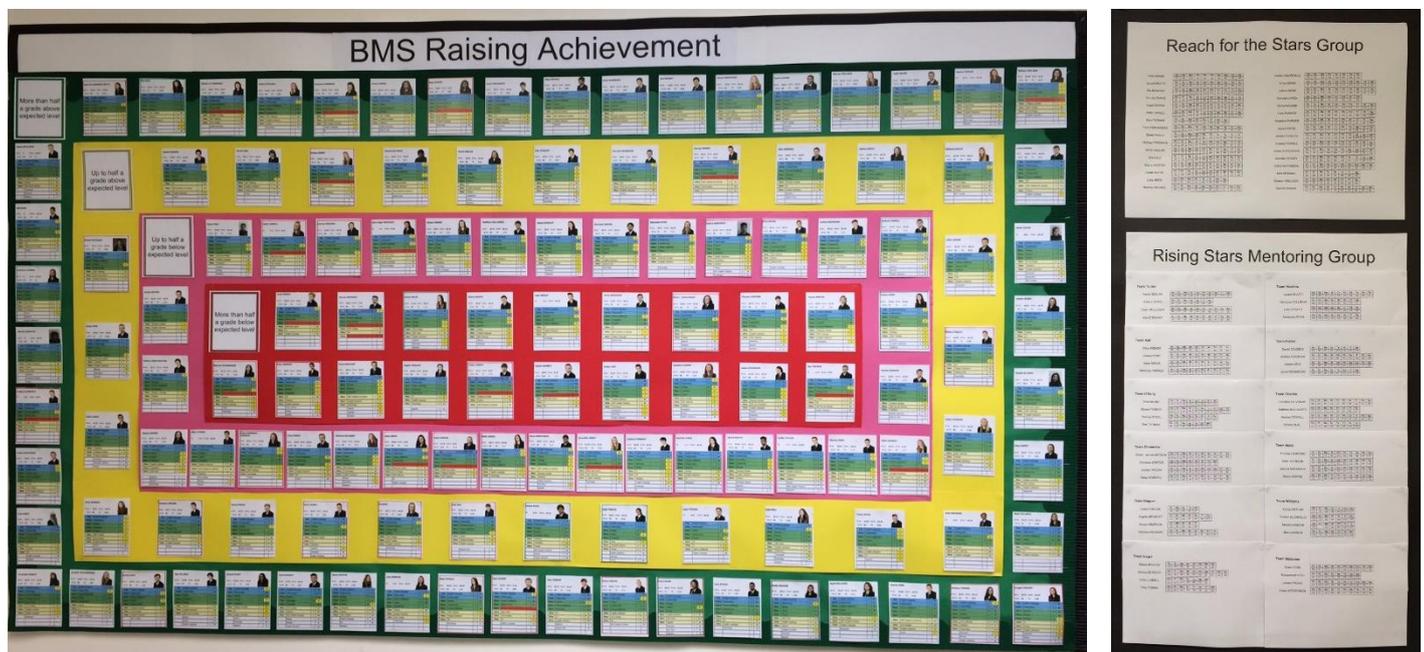
# Raising Achievement at the Core of Our School!

Mr Turner, Executive Principal

In line with our clear Strategic Commitment Purpose and Intent that reinforces our goal to ensuring that all students at BMS enjoy reaching **their full potential**, becoming lifelong learners and positively contributing to society, raising achievement continues to be at the very core of our school.

With a particular focus on all our examination cohorts, it was a powerful moment in the whole staff briefing meeting on Friday morning to reflect on everything that is taking place to ensure that all students do achieve their potential. All staff are really going the extra mile to ensure this with a number of new and exciting initiatives taking place.

Whilst we are clearly tracking and supporting *all* our students, in the centre of our staffroom we have a Raising Achievement Wall (**RAW**) with over 80 students identified as needing an extra special encouragement to go the extra mile in their learning, to perhaps address a slight underperformance, or maybe push just that little bit more to achieve that truly aspirational grade they are not quite reaching at present.



The **RAW** shows students' photos and current predicted grades, matched against aspirational targets. It also identifies grades highlighted in yellow as subjects to really push on to the next level with the full support of their teacher in that particular subject area.

The coloured rings on the board indicate the progress students are making overall matched against prior attainment and current performance. In other words their 'Progress 8' score. Ideally everyone needs to push out from the red and pink zones to the yellow and green ones and all staff at BMS are committed to making this happen.

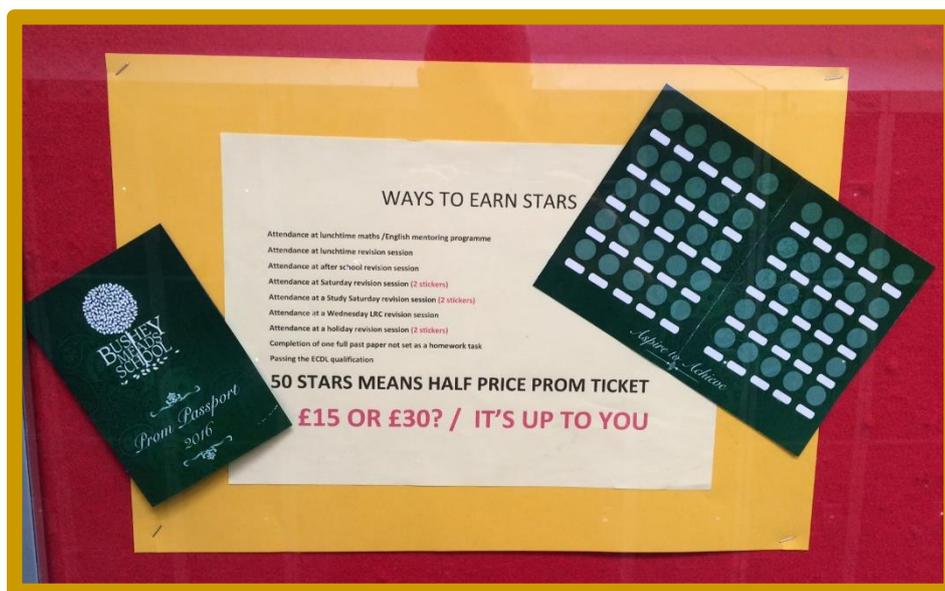
On the right hand side of the **RAW** are listed two particularly special groups: our **Reach for the Stars Group** of 30 students aiming for 5 or more A\* and A grades and our **Rising Stars Mentoring Group** of over 50 students, all meeting in small groups with a key member of staff to enable them to really maximise their performance over the coming months as they approach the all-important GCSE examinations in May and June.

I would like to thank our amazing Data Team Mrs Flynn and Miss Doona for working so hard to produce the clearly displayed data cards and our brilliant Display Coordinator Mrs Jackie Bennett for creating such a vibrant display that is so clear to see. Placed by our staff drinks machine, we can't fail to notice the information!

I would also like to thank our team of Mentors across the staff who have dedicated additional time to meet with the Rising Stars and all those staff involved with the Reach for the Stars programme, run by our hard working Assistant Headteacher Mrs Ash, who also oversees our growing and highly successful Sixth Form here at BMS.



The Rising Stars Mentoring Programme Display Board in H Corridor – showing photos of the 50 students and their mentors – each student is a **Star in the Making!**



The school has also launched a **Passport to the Prom** reward scheme – highlighted in our weekly newsletter last week. All Year 11 students have been given a very smart Passport to the Prom card and can collect gold stickers for the efforts over the coming months (100% attendance, attending revision sessions after school and at weekends, going the extra mile in their learning – perhaps completing extra past papers etc.) 50 stickers will earn them 50% off their Prom Ticket and any additional Passport to the Prom cards completed will be entered into a grand prize draw which will take place at the Year 11 Leavers' Assembly on Friday June 17<sup>th</sup>.

As you can see we are all hugely committed to the students at our wonderful school and are supporting them in some brilliant ways to ensure they do all reach their true potential.

# Sharing Outstanding Practice with Local Headteachers

Mr Turner – Executive Principal



It was great to welcome Richard Booth the Headteacher at The Reach Free School and Duncan Roberts Headteacher at Maple Cross JMI School to the Bushey St James Trust this week. They were particularly interested in seeing how the school and the Trust operates and how some of the strategic structures and collaborative approaches were benefitting the students in both school settings.

Jesse in Year 7 (who is one of our Student Learning Consultants) is pictured here talking to them about his reading lesson and his hugely positive experiences of being in Year 7 at BMS.

The two important visitors also spent some time at Little Reddings Primary School and talked to some of the key leaders there, including Assistant Headteacher, Seb Gray, who is pictured here in the junior hall explaining about the exciting collaborations currently taking place with literacy across the Key Stage 2 and 3 curriculum. Fazana Farook, our talented Lead Practitioner for English, is working closely with Seb to develop some superb schemes of learning that really build and reinforce the learning journey across the two phases.



# Year 11 Raising Achievement Evening

Mr Turner, Executive Principal



It was great to see so many supportive parents and hardworking students attend the very important Raising Achievement Evening on Tuesday of this week and hear so many crucial messages and information about the next few weeks and months in the run up to the GCSE examinations.

A pack of superb resources and a clear timetable of all revision sessions was provided to all those who attended the evening, showing how much is on offer to support the achievement agenda for all.



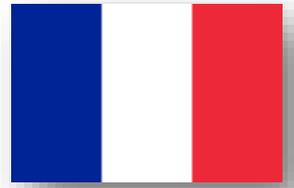
Hosted by Assistant Headteacher Mr Arnold, a number of key staff gave some tried and tested 'top tips' to the students to fully support them over the coming weeks. Mrs Ash also spoke about the next steps and the exciting stage of their education beyond the GCSE results day on August 25<sup>th</sup> and provided some very important information about sixth form enrolment.



Three superb sixth form students also gave a really helpful student perspective on how to cope at this pressured time and Mr Back, our Learning Resource Centre Manager, talked about the Wednesday lunchtime support sessions and Study Saturdays on offer soon to help all Year 11s maximise their performance .



# Language Leader Award



Mrs Dawson – Head of MFL faculty

Our fabulous Year 11 Language leaders have now completed an arduous but fabulous national award and are sending off their evidence this week to be ratified. Well done to them for their commitment and hard work!



## LRC NEWS

### Dickensian

Joshua Lim, 7A



Dickensian is a British television drama series that premiered on [BBC1](#) on the 26th December 2015. The 20-part series, created and co-written by Tony Jordan, brings together iconic characters created by Charles Dickens in one Victorian London neighbourhood as Inspector Bucket investigates the murder of Ebenezer Scrooge's partner Jacob Marley.

In Dickensian, I played the part of one of Fagin's boys. The Drama was filmed in the summer of 2015 over 5 different days. The whole set of Dickensian was built in a huge warehouse in London.

On my first day of filming I was shown around the set and it was amazing to see how the set designers had built houses and streets that looked like London in the 19th century. I was also sent to the costume department to try on my clothes and shoes and even had to wear a wig because my hair was not long enough.

My main scenes I'm in are with Fagin, Dodger, Arthur Havisham and Compeyson. The Director explained to us what to do in each scene and we usually acted out the scene several times.

It was fun to watch the adult actors filming their scenes. But there was also a lot of waiting around during filming. I love filming and seeing myself on TV. I saw myself in three episodes and I hope to see myself in the next episode. I wish I could do more acting in Dickensian when the drama continues into season 2.

# Celebration!

Mr Turner, Executive Principal

This was the theme of the week in school for our House Assemblies this week and it was a real privilege to be able to sit in Maple House Assembly with Carly Simmonds the Headteacher of Little Reddings School and listen to Mr Cox, the Head of Maple House, give out some really encouraging and motivational messages.



He also presented over 100 prestigious achievement certificates to students in his House - recognising them for the number of reward points that they had achieved. I was particularly delighted to see how many Year 10 students were recognised in this way – as seen in the picture above. As always these certificates should be kept safely in the student's Progress File, to be used for Sixth Form and/or job or college interviews in the future.

The House Assembly coincided with an important day of interviews for the Assistant Headteacher post at the school and all the interview candidates were also present in the assembly and could clearly see our very positive culture that we have established at the school and one that really supports and celebrates student achievement.

## Maths Challenge

### Answers and winners to Last weeks Challenges:

Level 1 = 102,

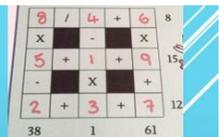
Jay Downes/Robbie Marsh  
Miss Farook

Level 2 – 0.2 (1/5),

Lily Jarvis  
Mrs Bowyer

Level 3 –

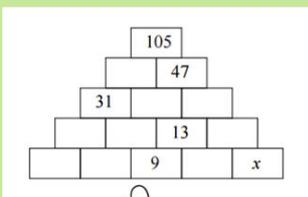
Emma Sulivan  
Miss Burton



### Maths Challenge Level 1

In this partly completed pyramid, each rectangle is to be filled with the sum of the two numbers in the rectangles immediately below it.

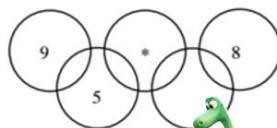
What number should replace  $x$ ?



12sindh@busheymeads.org.uk  
12campbell@busheymeads.org.uk

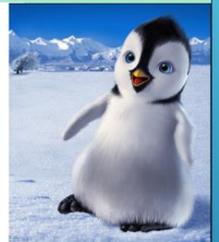
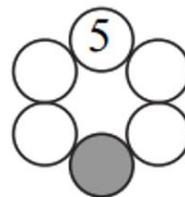
### Maths Challenge Level 2

Seb has been challenged to place the numbers 1 to 9 inclusive in the nine regions formed by the Olympic rings so that there is exactly one number in each region and the sum of the numbers in each ring is 11. The diagram shows part of his solution. What number goes in the region marked \*?



12patelr@busheymeads.org.uk  
12baldryc@busheymeads.org.uk

### Maths Challenge Level 3



The numbers 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 are to be placed, one in each of the circles in the diagram, so that the sum of the numbers in each pair of touching circles is a prime number. The number 5 is placed in the top circle. Which number is placed in the shaded circle?

12thirucumarany@busheymeads.org.uk  
12woolmerv@busheymeads.org.uk

When you have completed any of the challenges, email the addresses below or to Mr Akram (akrama@busheymeads.org.uk) with your answers, written answers to any Maths teacher. First correct answer wins a PRIZE. Thank you and good luck.

## Find out everything you need to know about a professional pilot career this April!

Pilot Careers Live London, 9 April 2016 [View this email in your browser](#)



# THE FIRST STEP TOWARDS A PROFESSIONAL PILOT CAREER

**Pilot Careers Live**  
9 April 2016  
Sofitel Hotel, Terminal 5, London Heathrow  
10am - 4.30pm

Dear Careers Advisor,

**Pilot Careers Live** is an exciting career event for anyone looking to take the first steps towards a professional pilot career. It will cover all there is to know on what it takes to become an airline pilot by bringing together leading pilot training companies, airlines and pilot career experts in one venue.

**Speakers and exhibitors include:** British Airways, the RAF, CityJet and Flybe as well as many **Approved Training Organisations and Universities** from all over the UK. Visitors will be able to get a unique insight to life as a pilot with the airlines, flying for the military, aviation degree courses, advice on the selection process and the pilot training journey explained. It's all there!

**Questions the event will answer:**  
 What qualifications do you need?  
 The selection process explained.  
 What are the costs?  
 When can you start?  
 Life as a pilot – what can you expect?  
 How to combine a university degree with pilot training.  
 Pilot apprenticeships.  
 What are the job prospects?  
 What are the salaries?  
 What does the training include?  
 What are the different types of training available?  
 Royal Air Force – what are the careers options?

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### More information and Tickets

For discounted student tickets and full information visit [www.pilotcareernews.com/live/london](http://www.pilotcareernews.com/live/london)

If you wish to discuss the exhibition in more detail please do not hesitate to contact Paul Yates or Darran Ward on the **Pilot Careers Live** events team. In the meantime, we hope you are able to circulate the event information to your students.

Darran Ward - [darran.ward@seager.aero](mailto:darran.ward@seager.aero)

Paul Yates - [paul.yates@seager.aero](mailto:paul.yates@seager.aero)

T: 01225 481440



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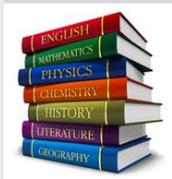
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## More Able at BMS

Miss Booth

### More able at BMS

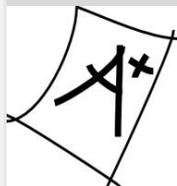
As part of my role as the More Able coordinator at BMS I look at the good practice that is taking place across the school. Recently I surveyed some of our more able students to look at what they feel helps them to make progress and I have had some excellent responses from students. Here are a few examples:



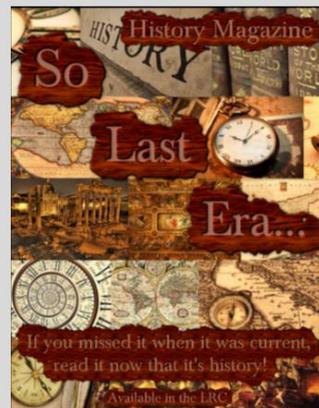
*"In some lessons, our teacher challenges us by giving us A level topics to study."* – Year 10 student.

*"In lessons such as maths there are ways to see my progress through activities. In maths the pixl maths app makes a bar chart to show my progress."* – Year 10 student.

*"I have received good feedback from my teacher for my work. This has helped me to improve it."* – Year 8 student.



Students clearly thought carefully about their responses before giving them and information such as this is valuable when evaluating which teaching and learning techniques provide the best learning experiences for students.



# GCSE DANCE SHOWCASE

26<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Main Hall

19:00pm



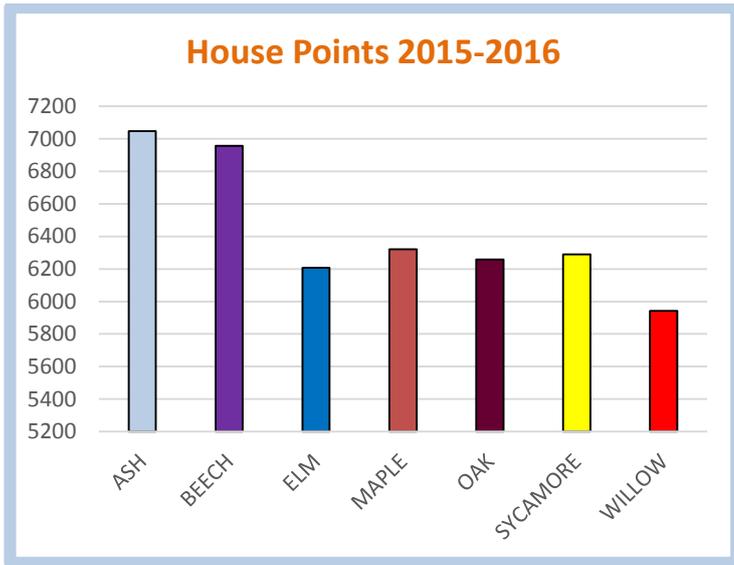
On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April the GCSE Dancers will be performing a showcase of their work. The GCSE Dance course requires students to perform to live audiences, in order to improve their expressive skills and prepare them for their live moderation. There will be a variety of group dances, solos and duets performed that will be choreographed by both the teacher and students.

Tickets are £1 and can be purchased in advance through Miss Rowden. It would be great to have your support on the evening and we look forward to seeing you there.

For further information regarding tickets please contact  
Miss Rowden: [rowdene@busheymeads.org.uk](mailto:rowdene@busheymeads.org.uk)

# HOUSE POINTS UPDATE

Sara Ash, Assistant Headteacher



<b>ASH</b>	<b>7047</b>
<b>BEECH</b>	<b>6957</b>
<b>MAPLE</b>	<b>6321</b>
<b>SYCAMORE</b>	<b>6289</b>
<b>OAK</b>	<b>6259</b>
<b>ELM</b>	<b>6208</b>
<b>WILLOW</b>	<b>5942</b>



