

# BETHS VIP

Excellence - Community - Respect - Nurture

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents, Carers,



Typically, the last term of the academic year is always a busy one and there has been a lot going on this week within the school community!

We held a “Bexley Schools Mental Health Ambassadors” meeting yesterday, where a mixture of year group student ambassadors, from Beths and others Bexley schools, met to discuss ways to improve the mental health of students and raising awareness of it to help others. It was great to see the young people conversing on the subject and sharing ideas of how to improve people’s understanding of it.

Our Year 7 and Year 8 students were off timetable yesterday and today participating in their Enterprise Days. Year 7 took part in the “Suits You Sir” enterprise activity and Year 8 took part in the “Theme Park Mania” activity. Student were given a resource box with all the required material and instructions they needed. By working in teams, puzzle solving, and using their entrepreneurial skills, they had to create their masterpiece. We will have more on their creations next week.

Our Year 9 student have participated in some food technology lessons at North Kent College in Gravesend this week, with the last group leaving on Monday 11th July. Students have learnt how to make a vegetable curry as well as cookery and hygienic skills.

Our Year 12 students have been out on Work Experience this week, either onsite at an employers base or via online virtual courses. The variety of work experience offered has been so vast, there has been plenty for our students to get a feel of what they perhaps want to pursue as a career, or not! Online courses in STEM and Law from external firms have also provided our students with a flavour of what to expect in that field.

Next week is our last full week in school and again, another busy one with a number of trips taking place and our Sports Presentation afternoon.

We had the first of our summer music concerts this week, some beautiful music played by our talented students. The next concert is on Tuesday 12th July at 6pm.

Have a wonderful weekend,  
Richard Blyghton



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# THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Staff have been very busy supporting Y12 and Y11 students on their Duke of Edinburgh expeditions over the past few weekends. Luckily, on each weekend, we were blessed with good weather during the days with the thunder and rainstorms testing the quality of the tents at night! It was great fun to get to know more of our students and see how well they fared in the great outdoors away from the hustle and bustle of city life that we are all accustomed to. Most students started the weekend with their eyes focused on the ground and on their maps, tripping up over their own feet but by the end of the first day it was easy to see how much their confidence had already grown and how much they were enjoying working together to reach their destination.



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# THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

The expedition is a good test for morale and motivation as well as physical fitness, common sense and navigational skills. We tested the students with a range of scenarios to see how well they would cope under more extreme conditions and fortunately we only had one 'for real' first aid situation to deal with but we won't embarrass that member of staff with the gruesome details!

The highlight was definitely watching Mr Law in his element lighting an amazing camp fire from scratch. Ask him to show you his firesticks!

We are looking forward to the Y10 expedition in a couple of weeks and hope that the weather will be just as kind to us then.



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# YEAR 8 MEP

Our Year 8 Mandarin Excellence Programme students had a wonderful time on their trip to the British Museum and Chinatown.



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# FOREIGN COIN COLLECTION

Our Year 8 students helped the Parents Association bag all the money raised from the foreign coin donation to be sent to Cash4Coins.

Monty 8C: "I can't believe how much money we raised from these coins!"

Sourjyesh 8A: "The amount of coins were unbelievable. It is so interesting to see the different coins and it is amazing that it is going to a notable charity."

Stephen 8A: "I just want to say thanks to the Parents Association for organising this great opportunity for charity work."



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# CAREERS FAIR, THURSDAY 14 JULY

On Thursday 14 July students from years 12, 10 and 9 will have the opportunity to talk to almost 50 employers, apprenticeship providers and Higher and Further Education representatives at our Careers Fair. Each student will have approximately 50 minutes to meet with employers face-to-face. This is a great opportunity for our students and something that hasn't happened for some time due to the pandemic. As the Careers Fair is taking place during the school day, it is a student-only event.

The exhibitors cover a wide range of sectors:

Banking / Finance

Built Environment

Creative / Media

Engineering / Manufacturing

FE / HE / Apprenticeships / Careers

Healthcare

Hospitality / Leisure / Retail

Public Services / Forces / Law

Science / IT / Sport Science

As parents we would encourage you to discuss which particular sector your child is interested in and why as part of their preparation for the event.



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# CAREERS FAIR, THURSDAY 14 JULY

**Years 9 and 10** will be visiting the Careers Fair after morning break. Prior to their visit to the Careers Fair, information will be given to students in assemblies and in form time and by email. They will be provided with a handout showing the layout of the Careers Fair and some questions to support them in speaking with employers. Students will be escorted to the Sports Hall by subject teachers who will remain with them throughout the experience. After the Careers Fair they will be encouraged to reflect on their conversations and these will be recorded on Unifrog as evidence for the future.

**Year 12:** Because of the size of the cohort Year 12 students have been split into two groups. Both groups will visit the Careers Fair during the morning. Any student with a free period has been allocated to a group. Prior to the Careers Fair students will be given a Student Passport with details of the Careers Fair and information on how to record their experiences on Unifrog. This will provide useful information to staff when they write personal statements, and for the students as they prepare for the world of work. Year 12 students will be accompanied by subject staff and will return to normal lessons after visiting the Careers Fair.



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# **YEAR 12 SECTOR AND SKILLS VIRTUAL SEMINAR PROGRAMME**

**For Year 12 students and parents, Thursday 14 July, 6-8pm.**

The Careers Fair is taking place during the school day and is for students only. However, during the evening there will be a programme of online seminars from industry experts and careers professionals for year 12 students and their parents/carers. Our speakers will be discussing career paths, covering a number of popular subjects: law, medicine, clinical research and construction. As well as sector-specific talks, students and parents will have the opportunity to listen to talks on career pathways and skills including careers coaching, apprenticeships, mentoring and building a sustainable career. Students and parents will be able to attend two seminars, at 6pm and/or 7pm. All talks will be recorded and available after the event, and will include a Q&A segment.

Further information regarding booking will be sent to all Year 12 students and parents.

We look forward to an exciting and valuable day for all students involved in the Careers Fair and virtual seminar programme. As parents we appreciate your support in encouraging your child to engage with these events.



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# YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE

## 4-8TH JULY

This week our Year 12 students have been able to take part in work experience. Almost 150 students are attending in-person work experience placements in a wide variety of workplaces. It's been great to receive positive feedback from employers regarding our students:

'shown a keen interest throughout the day, asked questions and engaged with all activities asked of her'

'What a lovely lady she is'

'Has adapted very quickly'

'is doing really well'

'she was great'

'very pleased with the way he coped with the work'

'the feedback on him is very positive, he's a very nice young man'

'a pleasure to work with'

'very attentive and willing to learn'

Other students are taking part in a number of virtual schemes, including a STEM initiative from the National Grid, and subject programmes including Law, Engineering, Business, Finance, Technology, Psychology and Medicine.

All students - whether they are taking part in an in-person placement or virtual scheme - will record their experiences in a Work Experience Diary, and information will be uploaded to Unifrog.



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# OUR CAREERS PROVISION: THE GATSBY BENCHMARKS

The Gatsby Benchmarks define what world class careers provision in education looks like and provide a clear framework for Careers in Schools and Colleges. The Careers Fair relates to two Gatsby Benchmarks (5 and 7): Encounters with Employers and Employees and Encounters with Further and Higher Education. Our Work Experience programmes enable students to have first-hand experiences of the workplace through work visits, work shadowing and/or work experience to help their exploration of career opportunities, and expand their networks (Experiences of Workplaces, Benchmark 6).

## Our Careers Mission Statement:

We want Beths students to ... be empowered; achieve within the world of work; have successful, rewarding and fulfilling careers; be motivated and happy to engage with the challenges of life.



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# YEAR 5 OPEN EVENTS



## Beths Grammar School

PROMOTING EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS

### Year 5 Open Events 2022

Calling all current Year 5 pupils, parents and carers. You are warmly invited to join us for our Year 5 Open Events. This is an exciting opportunity to learn about life at Beths, filled with taster sessions and fun activities!

**Please note: there is no parking onsite.**

Meet the Headteacher, staff and students.

To book a space please visit <https://bit.ly/3wO7n4g> or scan the QR code

**Each session will run from 9am - 11am on the following dates:**

Wednesday 29th June  
Monday 4th July  
Wednesday 6th July  
Monday 8th July  
Monday 11th July  
Tuesday 12th July  
Wednesday 13th July



Hartford Road, Bexley DA5 1NE | [Admin@beths.bexley.sch.uk](mailto:Admin@beths.bexley.sch.uk)  
01322 556538 | [www.beths.bexley.sch.uk/](http://www.beths.bexley.sch.uk/)



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# SUMMER CONCERTS

The Music department will be holding a series of summer concerts. Please head to our social media to see pictures and videos from the event.



**Beths**  
*Summer Concert Series*

*music*   
*Featuring:*

**June 29<sup>th</sup>**  
Drummer  
**Owen**

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**July 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**KS 3 Open Mic**

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**July 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**KS 4/5 OPEN  
MIC/ Hip Hop Jam\***

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**July 18<sup>th</sup> Komi**  
Pianist

*In the main school hall*

Concerts are at 12:10-12:30 unless marked with an \*, then they are 1:00-1:30pm.



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# SUMMER CONCERTS

## Beths Grammar School

5<sup>th</sup> July 2022

2022 6pm

*featuring*

Chamber Ensembles,  
Small Groups  
and Soloists

12<sup>th</sup>

July

2022 6pm

*featuring*

Beths Big Band, the  
Orchestra, Chamber  
Ensembles, Soloists and so  
much more!



## Summer Concert Series

Tickets available on the door or at [ticketsource.co.uk](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk)



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# KEEPING YOUR CHILD SAFE ONLINE

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many platforms which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about STEAM

Steam is a computer gaming digital distribution platform and storefront. It is the biggest platform for desktop- or laptop-based gaming, with a range of more than 30,000 games available. The platform has become a lively social environment for many gamers, and allows people to trade, sell and buy gaming items for real money. Valve, the developers behind Steam, have also released different hardware that works with the platform, including the Steam Deck – a hand-held console that lets users play their favourite games while away from their computer.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### UNSUITABLE GAMES

Among the 30,000+ games on the platform, there are many that aren't appropriate for children. Individuals can view and download games featuring adult content if they verify their age – but, of course, it's easy to enter a false date of birth online. This can lead to children and young people finding games that they shouldn't have access to: featuring violence or profanity, for example.

#### SPENDING SPREES

Steam hosts regular sales – including some where game prices are reduced by up to 90%. Some sales promotions also include a mini-game or event which encourages users to spend more money. The sales can be an excellent time for young gamers to purchase the titles they've been wanting, but the attractive discounts can also promote impulse buys driven by the fear of missing out.

#### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Steam isn't a social media site, but it certainly shares some of their elements. Users can add other people as 'friends', for example (whether they know them in real life or not), and then communicate privately with them using text or voice chat. The platform also hosts public discussions and groups for socialising. Steam users can also leave comments on the profiles of other players.

#### POTENTIAL SCAMS

Sadly, Steam's immense popularity has made it a lucrative destination for internet scammers. The most common ruse is phishing: scammers send links to other users, aiming to trick them into entering their login details – which are then stolen. Once in control of the account, the scammer sends messages to everyone on the victim's friend's list, in an attempt to hijack their accounts too.

#### SHADY TRADERS

The Steam Community Market is a built-in trading area where players can trade resources for their games on the platform. Gamers can exchange items, or buy and sell them using real-world currency. It's possible for unwary users to be scammed through bad trade deals, and Steam doesn't usually get involved when this happens. There are also third-party trading websites, which can be risky to use.

#### SPARSE AGE RATINGS

Steam is a digital distribution platform for games of all kinds, including ones not rated by regulatory bodies. Getting a game rated takes a long time, and can be expensive, so developers only tend to follow that process when releasing a title that will be physically sold in shops. Most games on Steam, therefore, don't have an advisory age rating on the store page.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

#### ENABLE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Steam does have some limited parental controls that can restrict exactly what games someone's account can view and access. This can be set up by navigating to the 'Family' tab in 'Settings', then selecting 'Manage Family View'. The platform then allows parents and carers to share a Steam account with their child and limit them to age-appropriate games.

#### USE GIFT CARDS

Having payment methods (like card details or PayPal) linked to a Steam account makes it very easy for a child to purchase new games or spend money on items in the marketplace. An excellent and safe alternative would be to buy a Steam gift card and let your child make their purchases with that instead – putting a manageable cap on how much they can spend on the platform.

#### APPLY STEAM GUARD

Steam Guard is an optional additional layer of security that protects accounts. Enabling it ensures that anyone attempting to log in to that account also needs to provide authorisation via their phone or email. The computer that your child uses Steam on can be authorised to prevent having to provide separate authentication for each login.

#### SHARE A LIBRARY

Using Family Library Sharing lets everyone at home share games across accounts (while still keeping their accounts separate). The entire game library from each account is shared with the other account holders – a great way to avoid having to purchase a different copy of the game for each of your children. However, if two users want to play the same game separately, you would need to buy it twice.

#### SAFE MODDING

Modifying a game to customise it or to introduce new content – known as 'modding' – is common on Steam. There's nothing inherently bad about modding, but installing the wrong mods can be disastrous: they can stop games from working properly, or at all. Steam's mods are unlikely to contain viruses or malware, but it's still possible – so ensure your child reads the mod's reviews first to avoid anything dangerous.

#### Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



National Online Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://help.steamowered.com/en/faq/new/7095-9391-2308-A378>  
<https://help.steamowered.com/en/faq/new/5797-933C-90F-524E>

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# EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS

There are a range of activities/ clubs on offer for students. These activities run before school, lunch time, and after school. Below is a list of all activities currently offered. Please speak to the member of staff listed below if you would like more information.

|                                                  | MONDAY                                                                                                                                   | TUESDAY                                                                            | WEDNESDAY                                                                                                                                                                | THURSDAY                                                                                                                                             | FRIDAY                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Before school</b><br><b>8 – 8.30am</b>        | KS3 Basketball                                                                                                                           | KS3 Basketball                                                                     | KS3 Basketball                                                                                                                                                           | KS4 Basketball<br>KS3 Composition club<br>Composing for Video Games                                                                                  | KS4 Basketball                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Lunch time</b><br><b>KS3 12.00 – 13.00</b>    | Year 7 and 8 Robotics club- A6,<br>Year 9 Basketball (Mr Temple),<br>KS3 Chess Club – A2,                                                | Year 10 and 11 Coding Club,<br>Memrise club,<br>KS3 Chinese Experience Club - S18, | Year 8 Basketball ALL (Mr Webb) ODD WEEK,<br>Year 7 Rugby (Mr G.S + Mr Smith),<br>KS3 Eco – Club – A4,                                                                   | KS3 Badminton (Mr Temple),<br>KS3 Drama (2:15-1:45) – P3 (Ms Grady),<br>KS3 Design and technology club,                                              | Year 7 Basketball (Mr G.S + Mr Smith),<br>Year 8 Football – Team Training (Mr Webb) ODD WEEK ONLY,<br>KS3 LGBTQ+ Club (S16/S17), |
| <b>KS4</b><br><b>KS5</b><br><b>12.50 – 13.50</b> | Year 10 Basketball (Mr Smith),<br>Beths Bar (KS4 and KS5),<br>KS4 & KS5 Chess Club,<br>KS5 Gender Equality Group,                        | Year 10 and 11 Basketball,<br>KS5 Maths Olympiad Club- B12,                        | Elective in French (ODD week),<br>Elective in Spanish (ODD week),<br>Music KS4 revision,<br>KS4 Eco-club – A7A,<br>Sixth form: Football, Rugby, Basketball, Netball      | Girls Fitness - Sports Hall,<br>Year 10 Debate Club - B4,                                                                                            | Sixth form Basketball (Team),<br>KS4 and KS5 LGBTQ+ Club,<br>KS5 Music Revision,                                                 |
| <b>After school</b><br><b>3.20 – 4.45pm</b>      | Rugby Training Year 7-9,<br>KS3 Badminton,<br>Song writing club P2,<br>Computing Year 11 and Year 13 revision,<br>KS4 Robotics club- A6, | Year 8 and 9 Basketball Orchestra                                                  | Year 7 Japanese Club - S17,<br>Year 8 and 9 Basketball,<br>6th Form Band (Session 3 in P2, 2-3pm),<br>Piano Orchestra,<br>Anime Piano Club - P2,<br>Warhammer Club - S1, | KS3 Football (ALL)<br>Year 7 STEM Club - S12<br>KS3 Violin Club,<br>KS4 Basketball,<br>Student and Staff Choir - P1 (Ms Marriott),<br>Beths Singers, | Robotics club (open to all) – A6,<br>Year 7 and 8 Basketball,<br>Big Band rehearsals,<br>KS5 Maths Olympiad Club- B12,           |

The full list of clubs and activities can be found on the school's website

<https://www.beths.bexley.sch.uk/page/?title=Extra+Curricular+Activities&pid=50>



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# BETHS PARENTS ASSOCIATION:

## 1. Latest Parents' Association events

**Summer Concert:** Beths Parents Association members are working very closely with the Music department to raise much needed funds by selling refreshments and organising raffles. Congratulations to Beths students who are showcasing an exceptional musical skill.

**Coming Soon:** Amazon Prime Day is back, starting on 12th July and running through 13th July!



To celebrate, Amazon will be doubling donations on all eligible purchases made with AmazonSmile during the 48-hour event. This is a great opportunity for Beths Parents Association to increase

AmazonSmile donations during these epic two days of deals and promotions.

If you shop Amazon Prime Day deals on 12 & 13 July, Amazon will double donations: Simply shop with AmazonSmile ON in the Amazon Shopping app or at [smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/801836-0](https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/801836-0), and AmazonSmile donates to Beths Parents Association. Raise even more funds and set up a challenge with you family and friends by asking them to select Beths Parents Association on AmazonSmile:

2. If you shop elsewhere online, please join Easyfundraising. Again, it costs nothing to you and Beths PA will automatically receive a donation. You can sign up at [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/BethsPA](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/BethsPA) and we will receive a donation anytime you shop.



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# BETHS PARENTS ASSOCIATION:

## 2. Reuse, Reduce, Recycle Scheme: PA's new 3Rs scheme

**Second-hand Uniform Shop = Nearly new blazers and PE kit.**

Give another life to your child's school uniform and drop them off at the School Reception!

If your children have grown out of their uniform, please do consider donating to our PA Uniform Shop.

We are selling these items, please email the PA via: [beths.parents.association@gmail.com](mailto:beths.parents.association@gmail.com).



**BETHS PA  
NEARLY NEW UNIFORM SHOP**

Uniform Donations are very welcome.  
Please contact for donations and purchases:  
[beths.parents.association@gmail.com](mailto:beths.parents.association@gmail.com)

| Price List:            |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Blazers                | £10       |
| Trousers               | £3        |
| Jumpers                | £3        |
| PE Shorts              | £5        |
| Tracksuit Bottoms      | £5        |
| Tracksuit Top          | £5        |
| Long Sleeve Games top  | £5        |
| Short Sleeve Games top | £5        |
| House colour PE top    | £5        |
| White shirts           | £3 New £5 |
| House Tie              | £1        |

## 3. Raise money for these thrilling projects and Giftaid it!



Over £3,450 has been raised so far!

**THANK YOU!** Every £ helps us to get closer to our target goal



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# BETHS PARENTS ASSOCIATION:



This is a simple way that not only supports our fund raising but also gives you the chance to win either a £20 or £10 monthly prize. To purchase your lucky numbers please complete the enclosed form and return it to the school office. Each number costs only £7, payable via the link below:

<https://checkout.square.site/merchant/MLJBMNWTMAZ24/checkout/QU7DMNSRYWZOIBWFUXH72VOH> or scan below QR code: or via school's Parent Pay system when your son starts in year 7, which allow entry for the 12 monthly and 4 quarterly draws. The winning numbers are randomly drawn at the monthly PA meeting.

Please register now by completing the form available on Beths Parents Association web page: Beths Grammar School - Parents Association or simply contact us on: [beths.parents.association@gmail.com](mailto:beths.parents.association@gmail.com)

Throughout the year, Beths Parents' Association works closely with school to raise funds for several requests such as:

- Beths radio/podcast equipment
- PE rugby junior size tops
- Sports awards trophies
- Basketball electronic scoreboard
- Ongoing projects

so please donate via this QR code or by following this link:

<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/21025>



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# BETHS PARENTS ASSOCIATION:

## Friends and Sponsors of Beths Parents Associations

We would like to say a special THANK YOU to our sponsors and William Jones who have generously donated towards our three editions of Beths Parents Association Online Chess Tournament, with cash functions and prizes for the winners.



Why not become a Sponsor by donating and having your business logo published on our pages! Please contact us for more details: [beths.parents.association@gmail.com](mailto:beths.parents.association@gmail.com)  
**THANK YOU!**

### Important dates



Next meeting: on Thursday 14th July 2021 @ 7.30pm - Zoom (TBC).

Summer Concert: 12th July at 6pm

Please keep checking on our website and social media pages for upcoming events



[beths.parents.association@gmail.com](mailto:beths.parents.association@gmail.com)



[Beths Parents Association](http://www.bethsgrammarpa.co.uk)



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