



Excellence—Community—Respect—Nurture

Beths Grammar School

Headteacher: Mr R J Blyghton



BETHS VIP

(Can you find the V.I.P. words hiding in this week's edition?)

Messages from Mr Blyghton, Headteacher

This penultimate week has been very busy with our Celebration of Achievement for Years 7-10 on Wednesday, followed by their Sports Day on Thursday – about the only day this week that was not a total wash out!

As we head towards the final week – as well as Enterprise Days for Years 7-10 and Academic Tutoring for students in Years 7 and 8 on Tuesday, with, to enable this to happen, students in KS3 being asked to study from home, we also have a last week of term barbeque for Year 12 students on Wednesday and, as we feel that all students have missed out so much this year, once Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 have finished their celebration assemblies on Friday, they will all be treated to a barbecue too – within their year group bubbles. Don't forget, Friday is also a half day for students with Key Stage 3 being dismissed at midday and Year 10 at 12.50pm. Friday, for staff and students will also be an own clothes day, with donations being split between a local charity and the PA.

In September, we will return for a staff only day on Wednesday 1 September, with the new Year 7 students joining us on Thursday 2 September and the new Year 12 students joining them on Friday 3 September. All other students will return to school on Monday 6 September.

As to our plans for September and beyond... details may change depending upon government guidance – and we will confirm everything with you ahead of the students return – however, these are our plans as it stands and are dependent upon the current bubbling restrictions are removed:

- Form Time for all year groups will be from 8.45 am.
- Key Stage and Year Group Assemblies will take place in the Hall and P3 respectively.
- There will be a staggered end to the day for each key stage. KS3 will finish at 3.20, KS4 at 3.30 and KS5 at 3.40pm.
- The day will model a 3-period day. Breaks for Key Stage 3 will remain in the middle of the periods and breaks for Key Stages 4 and 5 will mirror our original timetable pre-covid. All year groups will have at least an hour for lunch.
- The afternoon break for Key Stage 3 will be removed.
- Wednesday will start with a 45 minute PHSC session delivered by the Form Tutor. Morning periods and break times are adjusted to ensure that lunch takes place at the same time as the other four days of the week.
- School PE/Games kit or school uniform to be worn on days they are timetabled. This will be reviewed after a term.



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- Entry into School at the beginning of the day is through either gate. However, exit from school will be Years 7-10 through the west gate and Years 11-13 through the east gate where Year 11 will need to display their year group badge to gain an exit through that gate.
- Student toilets, apart from the sixth form centre, will revert to use by all years.
- Dining arrangements for Break and Lunch will remain as they are with Year 7 in the Canteen, Year 8 at the Snack Shack, Year 9 at the Pod, Year 10 at the Snack Shack, Year 11 at the Pod and the Sixth Form in the Canteen. Because variety is possibly a good thing, this will be reviewed during the first term so that, hopefully, all year groups get a chance to use all of the eating areas.
- Recreation areas for students will remain zoned for the first term with Year 7 on the tennis courts, Year 8 on the hardcourts, Year 9 on the field, Year 10 on the tennis courts and Year 11 on the hardcourts.
- Departmental teaching rooms will be reinstated with a proviso that the following priorities are followed: HoD and Subject Leader have a specified teaching location within their departmental suite of rooms, new teachers and ECTs are given a teaching room, KS3 and KS4 classes are taught in specific departmental subject rooms and sixth form classes will not displace KS3 or KS4 from a subject room permanently.
- Form Rooms will be zoned as is currently with the form name staying put and the tutor group moving to the next zone. For example, 7W becomes 8W and they move from P2 to register in B13 from September; 9H currently registering in B5 move to A7A when they become 10H.
- Key Stage 3 lunch occurs during the Key Stage 5 study during their session 2. Key Stage 3 students will have access to the LRC from 12.15-1.00 pm. Key Stage 5 students can either stay or work in the Sixth Form Centre.

Finally, how can I finish without a mention of the football? Like all of you, I will be glued to my seat on Sunday evening hoping and praying that England get a win – something that many of you may believe I witnessed in 1966, however, I'm not that old! As we will, hopefully, all be cheering on the three Lions, myself and my team have agreed that we will start on Monday 12 July slightly later than normal with all lessons commencing at 10.30am. Students will go directly to their session 1 lesson where they will be registered by the class teacher. No students will receive a break in the morning, due to the later start, but all will therefore go to their second session at 11.20am and then the day will continue as normal.

To enable all staff to have a well-deserved later start, the Facilities team will also be unlocking the school much later than normal. Therefore, no students should arrive before 10.00am as they will not gain entry.

Mr R J Blyghton



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What's been happening in class?

Sports Day

On Thursday 8 July, our Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students all took part in this annual event. It was great day and luckily the weather held out for us! The boys got into the spirit of the competition and the Year 10's even had a tug of war against the staff – The staff won!!

Here are the final scores of the day. As you can see there was a tie for first place and we had to go back through to see which team, Brampton or Wickham, has the most wins....

Abbey	604
Brampton	678
Cray	603
Eardley	618
Hurst	620
Wickham	678

The crowned winning team of Sports Day 2021 are:

Wickham

Mr Hayman was there on the day, in an array of positions, taking snaps of the students and staff. More will be available on our website and social media pages, however here are a few!



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Book Donations

Cherish Bere, a former staff member, picked up all old books on Saturday 3 July, from the LRC and Social Sciences Department.

“Just a quick note to say thank you ever so much for thinking to donate and organising the books. We dropped them off at Book2Africa’s processing centre in Canterbury on Saturday. I’ll share with you the impact report once they have been shipped to the different countries.

Thank you again for your time and generosity.”



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Jack Petchy

Even more Jack Petchey award were handed out this week – congratulations to all our brilliant students!



*If you are part of a club outside of school and participate in any competitions/challenges, please let us know – we would love to celebrate your achievements!
headoffice@beths.bexley.sch.uk*



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Beths Alumni – Ben Huggon

The month I started at Beths, my father passed away. Combined with the stress of starting at secondary school and meeting hundreds of people, I could well have found this all too much to cope with. Instead, the staff and my new-found friends at Beths provided me with the emotional support and safe environment for me to develop my confidence. I'd always been academically inclined but I found myself heading down a path to the sciences and took all of these to A-Level. I'm grateful to so many people for helping me along this journey and encouraging me to push myself. I can't thank them all here but particular credit goes to Mr Ramessar who is one of the most driven teachers I have ever met; and to Mrs Hubert who always went over and above for each and every student.



Beths pushed me not just to excel academically but to become a more rounded person. From playing in the school orchestra, participating in the Jack Petchey Speak Out challenge and becoming a Year 8 Camp Old Boy, I've tried things I never thought I would and made friends for life. In some ways, this was responsible for where I am now as it gave me the confidence to apply for medical school, and to make a last-minute decision to take a chance and apply to Oxford. After some tough interviews, extra tests, and a bevy of A-Level exams, incredibly that gamble paid off and 4 months after leaving school I found myself trundling down the M40 to start a new chapter of my life at Wadham College.

Six years at medical school was a long time, but in looking back it seems to have flown by. I've got too many stories to recount here - and some that I probably shouldn't - but here are some of my highlights from my time at Wadham:

- Taking our tutor's canal boat on a tour down the Thames after our first-year exams
- Christmas dinner in the Hall every December; tables groaning with a feast, the chapel choir singing carols and the whole evening lit by candlelight
- Completing a research project with the Department of Oncology, evaluating the use of antiparasitic drugs to sensitize cancer cells to radiotherapy
- Graduating from my first degree with all of my friends, running around the town in Harry Potter-style robes
- Taking up running in my second year, joining the university Cross Country Club and working my way up to competing against Cambridge and running the London Marathon
- Organising my college's black tie Commemoration Ball with 1200 guests, live acts, a circus and unlimited food and drink
- Finishing my final exams and jetting off to do my medical electives in Intensive Care and Sports Medicine in beautiful Vancouver...complete with a mountain race and skiing holiday, of course.

I qualified as a doctor in April 2020, at the start of the covid-19 pandemic. Once again, not the most straightforward way to start an important new chapter in my life but the past 18 months have not been easy on anyone. During my final year at university I'd made applications for work in an academic



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role in Yorkshire and was awarded a training post with a 4-month research block in Hull. I'd never even seen the city before, but received the offer during my intense week of final examinations and had only 48 hours to decide so I bit the bullet and have absolutely no regrets.

My first job was in Upper Gastrointestinal surgery, working on both the acute and elective service as a Foundation Year 1 doctor (or 'house officer') across two hospital sites. It was a real baptism of fire, especially on the acute wards where patients can come in extremely unwell and have to be assessed quickly and safely, often ending up in theatre within hours of admission. I worked all sorts of crazy hours, both assisting in theatre and keeping the ward ticking over. At 4 am in the morning, even the most simple of skills like taking blood can really be a challenge. All I can say is that I'm grateful the first thing I bought for my flat here was an espresso machine... Following this, I spent the winter months on a Critical Care Rotation including Major Trauma, Anaesthetics and Intensive Care. All high-drama, high-tech medicine and exactly the sort of thing I'm interested in for a career. Some of these placements were derailed slightly by the pandemic, as during the second peak I was redeployed to cover for absence elsewhere in the hospital. But I learned a lot during my time in these specialties and have also managed to arrange a project for my research post with the department of Anaesthetics. This autumn, I'll be working with a 3D printer to generate real-life models of human airways with various deformities. I'll then compare these against existing tools for learning advanced intubation skills in anaesthetics trainees.



My final job this year has been in Respiratory Medicine and began in my hospital's high-dependency unit for covid-19 patients on respiratory support. Working on the frontlines with very sick and dying patients has been tough, but the work I've done has been nothing in comparison to the senior doctors and nurses who have been managing these patients through the first and second waves. They've saved thousands of lives but have also endured hundreds of deaths, working their best to make those final hours as comfortable and dignified as possible.

Having just received my full registration this week, I'm excited for what the future holds. I'm sure there will be plenty of new challenges, but I know I have the skills and support needed to treat these as opportunities to learn and develop.

"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not in fighting the old, but in building the new"

We love to hear from any of our ex-students as to what they have achieved since leaving Beths so, please do keep us updated!

Contact us at headoffice@beths.bexley.sch.uk with any career updates and also photos, videos or even articles you have written about your memories of the school—we would love to share them with current staff and students.



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Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 13 July	11.00-14.00 Year 7 Academic Tutoring
Tuesday 13 July	14.00-17.00 Year 8 Academic Tutoring
Friday 16 July	Last day of Summer Term for staff and students
Tuesday 10 August	A Level Results Day
Thursday 12 August	GCSE Results Day

Sports Results and Fixtures

Results

FOOTBALL				
07.07.2021	Friendly	U12 v Harris Falconwood	Away	Won 16-4

Musician of the Week

This week we are celebrating with the Summer Chamber Concert.

<https://www.beths.bexley.sch.uk/page/?title=Music+%26amp%3B+Performing+Arts&pid=55&action=saved>

If you would like to be considered for Musician of the Week, please send your entries to Ms Marriott.



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Parents Association

Fundraising campaign update!

Our virtual Nearly New PA Uniform Shop will open soon!

We are asking for any donations of **nearly new blazers and unembroidered PE kit**. If you have any of the specified school uniform items that your son has grown out of, please do consider donating it to our PA Uniform shop ahead of our new Y7s joining us in September.



All donations can be handed in at the **School Reception marked for Beths Parents' Associations**.

We are aiming to sell these items for you to purchase once we have received donations and can provide an inventory. If you require any items, please email the PA via beths.parents.association@gmail.com.

Our goal of raising £10,000 includes the following fantastic projects:



- Outdoor chess tables – £2,000
- Musical instruments – £2,000
- Lighting for drama – £1,000
- Radio Beths – £5,000

£ 10, 000

£320.00 was raised at the online chess tournament!
THANK YOU!

Outdoor chess tables – £2,000

Due to the success of the online chess tournament - supporting our first of four campaigns to raise £10,000 - and easy way to get involved with the PA from the comfort of your living room, watch this space for the next tournament in **September...!!** And if you weren't able to join the event, why not support the Beths Parents Association in raising money for the school outdoor chess tables anyway at: <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/16829>



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Radio Beths: We aim to raise £5,000!



We are looking to launch another ambitious project: running a school radio at Beths and encourage students to use this media channel to broaden horizons and improve cultural awareness in an inclusive environment.

By raising funds with technological resources, we can provide exciting and engaging opportunities across the curriculum.

Thank you for helping us ensure Beths students are given the best educational opportunities to develop their creativity and communication skills.

Share the NEWS and DONATE HERE!!!!

<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/17268>

Drama lighting: Help us to improve our drama studio by raising £1,000!

We would love to provide new lights and special effects in the drama studio. With new lights, we can bring our drama lessons and smaller productions alive.



At Beths, our aim is to encourage students to engage in high quality learning experiences.

DONATE HERE!!!!

<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/17269>

Musical Instruments - £2,000

We are very proud of Beths students who excel in the art of mastering musical instruments. The student musicians have been entertaining the Beths community via live concerts in the past as well as virtual performances during the past year and a half. It is the mission of the school to afford this opportunity to all students and therefore they require more instruments for equal opportunity for all.

Thank you for investing in this cause by using this link: <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/17270>



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Help us raise funds at no cost for you! It is simple and quick!

Each week we will show you a new way of donating!

Match funding scheme: 65% of large companies have a match funding policy

Employers are willing to support their employees in their charitable work by matching pound - for - pound anything employees raise for beneficial causes within certain rules (e.g. only for registered charities, with supporting evidence, up to certain limits per event or per year). Beths Parents Association is a registered charity, any work parents do to raise money for the school is eligible for fund matching. Parents can claim by checking with their company if they do match funding by either:

1. Company intranet

2. Manager

3. Human Resources Department

Participate in Beths Parents Association events so our school can claim the match funding. Contact us and we will provide you with a letter evidencing your great involvement in our events with the amount raised.

All your support is appreciated, every pound will help us to get closer to our target goal.



Your PA NEEDS you, so please join us at the next meeting on:

Tuesday, July 13th, 2021, 7.30pm (Zoom)

We are looking forward to hearing from you:

beths.parents.association@gmail.com!

Please keep checking on our website page for upcoming events!

[Beths Grammar School - Parents Association](#)



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Careers

STEM & Medical Sciences Work Experience—Ages 12-18
'Live Online' or In-Person at UCL



***Architecture—Computer Science—Dentistry—Engineering—
Investment Banking—Medicine—Psychology— Veterinary Medicine***

Register now for unique opportunity to work alongside experienced engineers, doctors, psychologists, vets and others this term. Students can choose to attend 'Live Online' before Easter or in-person later in April. Our in-person events have strict COVID measures in place.

[Choose Your STEM Work Experience - InvestIN Education](#)

[Choose Your Work Experience \(Ages 12-14\) - InvestIN Education](#)

MCG Healthcare: **'How to become a GP'**

<https://www.mcghealthcare.co.uk/blog/how-to-become-a-gp-a-career-guide/bp202/>



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