

# BETHS VIP

Excellence - Community - Respect - Nurture

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



We are now moving into the third week of Advent which includes Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means “rejoice” in Latin, and the spirit of joy and hope that begins this week comes from the words of Paul, “The Lord is near.” Christmas is definitely on the way! This joyful spirit is marked by the third candle of our Advent wreath, which is rose coloured. In school, we rejoice in the achievements of our

students and staff, and celebrate their successes. This past week students and staff performed the annual Christmas Concert which is available online. This was recorded earlier the same day, with an audience made up of Key Stage 3 classes. I am very grateful to Mrs Marriott, her dedicated team and the students who performed in the concert. It was great to see and hear such a variety of pieces performed by students across the wide breadth of our community. I strongly believe that the quality of our musicians in the coming years is assured.

This week we were approached by Public Health Bexley, the Local Authority and the LCRC concerning the number of Covid cases in the school, particularly in relation to Year 12. On Tuesday, the total number of cases in Year 12 was the sum total of all the other year groups in the school.



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# MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

We therefore came to the sorry conclusion that Year 12 should be asked to learn remotely for the rest of the Autumn Term. This decision was the result of much discussion, and was taken to ensure the safety of both the year group and the school. Their virtual school now day begins with Registration and follows their normal timetable. I hope that their learning experience is equal to the provision that they receive in school, but I do understand that the social and pastoral side of our educative package will not be as easily addressed with the students not being in school with their friends.

We continue to insist on the mask wearing in and around the school site and ensure that all areas are well-ventilated. We do have a number of tutor groups who have been asked to test daily as the number in those who have tested positive has reached a tipping point.

The final day of term, Thursday 16th December 2021 will be a Christmas Jumper themed day and will conclude for Key Stage 3 at 12.00 pm, for Key Stage 4 at 12.25 pm and for Key Stage 5 at 12.50 pm. The Year 13 Parents Evening will be held virtually between 4.00 pm and 7.00 pm on that evening. All students will have received their school reports by the end of the week. Please reflect upon what has gone well and what needs to be done to be even better.



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# MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

We look towards “Hope” over the coming days where our communities begin to come together to celebrate Christmas. My seasonal wish for you all is that you have a relaxing break, and that you will be encouraged to try and do things that you may not have had the opportunity to do during the year – perhaps read a book, visit a relative, spend time with your family. Our whole community has been through a lot this academic year, and for some people this is still ongoing. Most importantly, I want and need you to be on the ball in January so that you make the most of the opportunities provided by us in the New Year.

We all need to be careful, and take the necessary precautions, both for ourselves and others, so that we are all able to enjoy the festive season.

We will return to school on Monday 10th January 2022 and further details regarding the day will be sent to you separately. It’s likely to be a day where students will need to be LFD tested at some point. Then again, I said this last year and we were locked down until after February Half Term!

Have a great weekend, an enjoyable final week of term and a lovely restful break.

Richard Blyghton



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# COVID TESTING

In line with government guidelines, students are encouraged to test at least twice a week and record their results on the school's TestRegister website via the email sent to you.



HM Government

NHS  
Test and Trace

**Rapid Covid-19 testing twice a week will help us stay ahead of the virus**

Report your test result each time, whether it's positive, negative or void.

Test at home, report online and keep life moving.

**GET YOUR TESTS FROM SCHOOL OR COLLEGE**

[www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result](http://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result)



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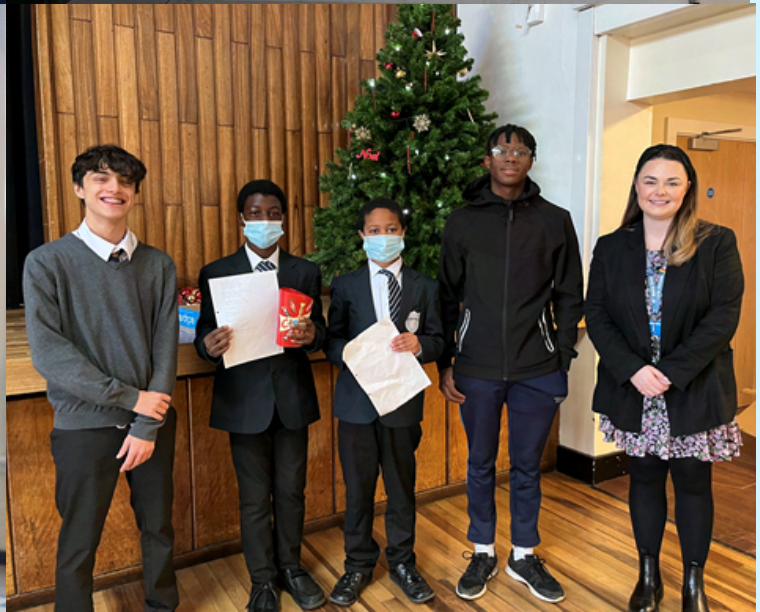
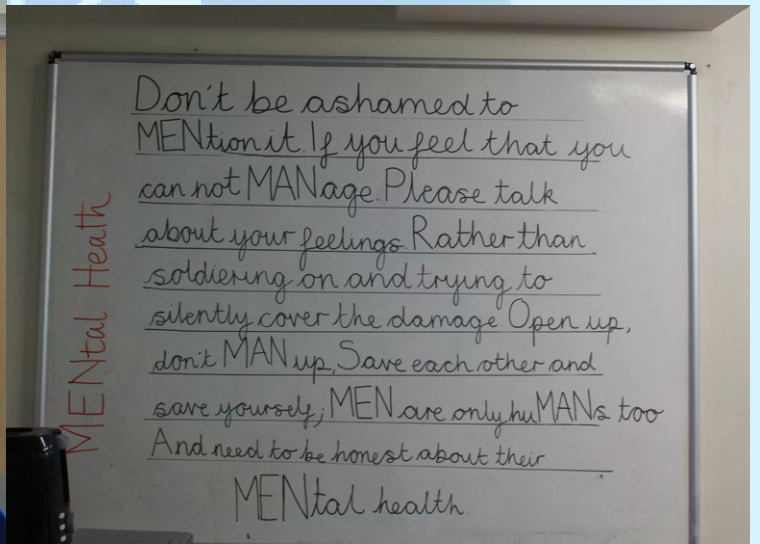
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# WELLBEING WEEK

During Wellbeing Week we highlighted the importance of protecting our mental and emotional health, both for life at school and in the adult world. Throughout the week, students and staff engaged in a variety of activities and initiatives such as positive messages, gifting and spoken word performances. Check out our social media to hear some of the lovely wellbeing poems that Year 7 students wrote!



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# TURN IT OFF TUESDAY

As part of Wellbeing Week, students were encouraged to turn off their phones on Tuesday to allow them to spend more time interacting with each other outside of a screen. They were given the opportunity to play some board games during lunchtime to develop their strategic skills!



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# STUDENT SUCCESS

Gabriel competed in the British Taekwondo National Poomsae Championships 2021, in the Under-14 Cadet Male category against an incredibly talented pool of Poomsae players. He achieved Silver overall in the finals. It is also worth noting that Gabriel had been a National Champion during 2017, 2018 and 2019 (2020 national championships were stood down owing to the lockdown).

In addition, Gabriel had also competed in the 4th Bluewave Poomsae Championships 2021, held on the 24th October 2021 at Basingstoke, achieving Gold in the finals against formidable and talented players from other clubs. Gabriel was a returning champion for the Bluewave competition during 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2021.

Gabriel demonstrated indomitable spirit and incredible courage of presence throughout these competitions, continuing to lead by example, inspiring other students and his peers at the Win Taekwondo Academy.

Gabriel is also scheduled to undertake his Black Belt grading on Sunday 12th December 2021, which would be another significant milestone for him.

Good Luck Gabriel!



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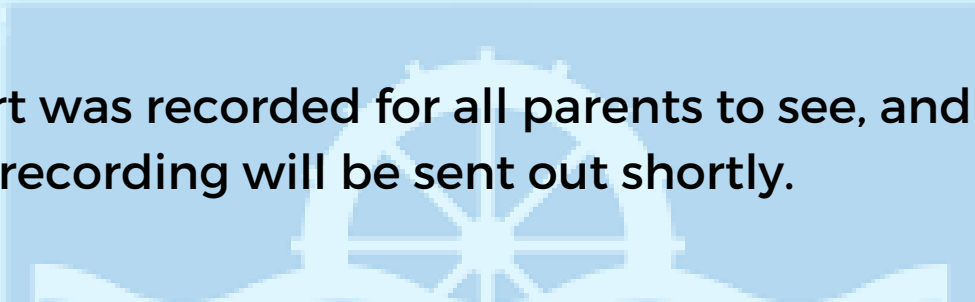


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# BETHS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

On Tuesday 7th December, we hosted our annual Christmas Concert. This concert was filled with Christmas magic, including performances from The Jazz Massacres, Orchestra, Big Band, and our newly formed trio called Faire Chroma, as well as a host of soloists.

The concert was recorded for all parents to see, and a link to watch the recording will be sent out shortly.



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# SUSTAINABILITY BITES

## From KS3 Eco Club

Interesting fact: the average family can waste 180 gallons per week or 9400 gallons annually and the entire world wastes 1.7 trillion water per year.

Top tips to save water at home.

1. Turn off the tap while you brush your teeth.
2. Make sure dishwashers are full before use.
3. Generally taking a shower uses less water than a full bath.
4. Invest in water butts to collect rainwater. This water can be used to water plants instead of using a hosepipe.
5. Some toilets have a dual flush button for water conservation. Use the correct button- the larger button flushes out around 6 to 9 litres, whereas the smaller flushes around 3 to 4.5 litres.



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# ROCKERY CLUB

As part of Rockery Club, students are designing a rocket to participate in the UKROC competition 2022. As part of the competition students must build a rocket that successfully launches an egg into the air without damaging the egg or rocket.



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# CAREERS

It's been a great term for the Careers and Guidance Department, and we wanted to share some of the things that we've been doing, and a few of our plans for 2022.

## **Sixth Form Events - Wednesday afternoons**

We're developing a programme of events for the Sixth Form, which includes general careers advice as well as a spotlight on different professions. The events have gone well, and the students have benefited from the experiences of our outside speakers. So far we've explored apprenticeships and looked at the pros and cons of pursuing a legal career. The students picked up invaluable interview and CV tips from Charlotte Miller during her talk on careers coaching. Charlotte is the Beths Enterprise Adviser, and is committed to preparing our students for the world of work.

In 2022 we're planning talks looking at finance and medicine, and even one from a pilot!



Phoebe Massey talking to our students about apprenticeships with Multiverse.

Charlotte Miller is a Human Resources Business Partner at an international investment company.



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# CAREERS

## Junior Prefects

Allison has been working with a group of year 11 prefects who want to focus on careers. Their ideas are amazing – as you can see below. We hope that they will continue their work as careers ambassadors and become mentors for the lower school.

### Career Workshops

- We would like to have different people from a field or a career, based on survey data, to come into the school and talk about what their job is like.
- They could also give us a “day in the life” speech, where they will try to persuade us that their career is enjoyable. Selected students will attend workshops based on the survey data and their interests.
- Workshops should include a follow up activity (perhaps a survey) to allow students to reflect on whether or not the career is still of interest to them. Career advisor meetings will then have greater focus.



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# CAREERS

## Surveys

Our Starting Years surveys were sent to all students in years 10, 11, 12 and 13 in September and October. They've given us valuable insight into the aspirations of our students and have helped us to shape the careers programme. The surveys varied slightly to make them appropriate to each year group. Some highlights that you might be interested in:

- The most popular subjects were Mathematics, Economics, Psychology and all the sciences (across all year groups)
- Over 80% of students surveyed want to go to university (across all year groups)
- 65% of year 11 students surveyed said that they wanted to stay at Beths for Sixth Form
- 30% of year 12 students and 25% of year 13 students surveyed would consider an apprenticeship
- The most identified career paths were Engineering, Law, Medicine, Finance, Banking and Accountancy.

## Careers in Wellbeing Week

What is Careers? It's about young people finding purpose, discovering what matters to them, their place in the world, the point of studying and getting up in the morning. Sometimes people think careers is just about information about options and planning for the future. It's so much more. It can give hope, meaning, purpose, self-esteem and the ability to navigate the challenges of life.



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# CAREERS

For Wellbeing Week we encouraged all year groups to use this statement to discuss careers. We also looked at how the right career could help students to achieve and maintain mental wellbeing, and focussed on some less-known careers that improve the wellbeing of others.

## Prospects

Our careers programme is supported by a careers guidance adviser from Prospects, an external company who specialise in expert careers advice. Marion's Beths day is a Thursday, and she's currently focussing on Year 11 students.

The Careers and Guidance Department is committed to integrating the Gatsby Benchmarks into the curriculum, and implementing a successful careers programme for all year groups. As well as interacting with our students, we've been making links with careers leads in other schools, and employers from the local community.

Looking forward to 2022 . . . more talks, work experience programmes and our summer careers fair.

Merry Christmas from the Careers Team



**Allison Blyghton**

Careers and Work Experience  
Lead



**Zoe Ratcliffe**

Careers and Work Experience  
Assistant

# MUSICIAN OF THE WEEK

This weeks Musician of the Week is: Levi, Year 10

Here is a really excellent video of Levi performing 'Come Thru' by Summer Walker and Usher.

Link to video: <https://youtu.be/0WyIMNnKpkE>



Any student who would like to be featured in the Beths 'Musician of the Week', whether it be a group or solo performance or a composition, please send your entries to Ms Marriott [msmarriott@beths.bexley.sch.uk](mailto:msmarriott@beths.bexley.sch.uk)



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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
Before school 8 – 8.30am	KS3 Basketball	KS3 Basketball	KS3 Basketball	KS4 Basketball	KS4 Basketball
Lunch time KS3 12.00 – 13.00	Year 9 Basketball (Mr Temple)  Chess club – Week 1- All key stages in A2, Week 2: KS3 Online (Mr Runacres)  Chinese Experience Club – S18		Year 8 Basketball ALL (Mr Webb) ODD WEEK  Year 7 Rugby (Mr G.S + Mr Smith)	KS3 Badminton (Mr Temple)  KS3 Drama – P3 ( Ms Grady)  Year 7 and 8 robotics club – A6 (Mr Morgan)  Year 8 Design Technology club – A8/A9 (Mr Knott)	Year 7 Basketball (Mr G.S + Mr Smith)  Year 8 Football – Team Training (Mr Webb) ODD WEEK ONLY
KS4 12.50 – 13.50	Year 10 Basketball (Mr Smith)  Chess Club - Week 2 KS4 and KS5, A2. (Mr Runacres)	Year 11 Basketball	Sixth form: Football, Rugby, Basketball, Netball (Ms Deane/Ms Ewing)  Eco-club: KS4/5 –A7A (geography department)	Girls Fitness Sports Hall (Ms Ewing)	Sixth form Basketball (Team)  LGBTQ+ Society – S15 (Ms Harris)
After school 3.20 – 4.45pm	Rugby Training Years 7 – 10  KS3 Badminton (Mr Healy)	Year 8 Basketball – Team Training (Mr Webb)	<u>Warhammer Club, S1 (Mr Turnbull)</u>	KS3 Football (ALL)  Year 7 Basketball  Year 7 STEM club -S12 (Mrs Sarkar)  Choir (all staff and students invited) – P12 (Ms Marriot)	

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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# RESULTS AND FIXTURES

## Results for week ending 10th December:

FOOTBALL					
03.12.21	KSFA Round 4	U12A	V Hurstmere	Home	Lost 0 - 1
06.12.21	ESFA Round 3	U12B	V St Paul's Academy	Home	Won 3 - 0
	ESFA Round 5	U13A	V Simon Langton	Away	Won 2 - 6
	ESFA round 3	U14B	V Shenfield	Away	Lost 5 - 2
08.12.21	League	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	V Bexley Grammar School	Home	Postponed
	League	2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	V Langley Park School for Boys	Away	Postponed
09.12.21	KSFA Qtr Final	U12B	V Ravens Wood School	Home	3 - 3 AET Lost penalties
BASKETBALL					
08.12.21	Tournament Group Match	U18A	V Langley Park School for Boys	Home	Postponed
09.12.21	Friendly	U13A	V Hayes School	Away	Lost 63 - 38
RUGBY					
04.12.21	Friendly	U12A	V Simon Langton	Home	Lost 2 - 7
		U12B	V Simon Langton	Home	Won 10 - 5
		U13A	V Simon Langton	Away	Won 4 - 12
		U14A	V Simon Langton	Away	Won 25 - 50
07.12.21	Friendly	U12A	Year 7 Rugby Festival	Neutral Dartfordians RFC	Cancelled

## Fixtures for week commencing 13th December:

BASKETBALL					
14.12.21	Friendly	U14A	Kent Tournament	Away	Tip Off 16:00pm
RUGBY					
11.12.21	Friendly	U12A	V Robert Clack	Away	KO 9:30am
	Friendly	U12B	V Robert Clack	Away	KO 9:30am
	Friendly	U13A	V Robert Clack	Home	KO 9:30am
	Friendly	U14A	V Robert Clack	Home	KO 9:30am

\*Please note that some matches may be cancelled/postponed and therefore we ask you to keep an eye on the SOCS website.

Beths Grammar School | Sports Home ([bethssport.co.uk](http://bethssport.co.uk))



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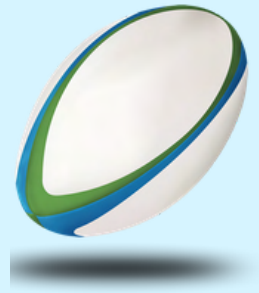
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# MATCH REPORT

## Saturday 4th December 2021 Beths U12A & B v Simon Langton



U12B - Riley E

The score was 10 tries to 5 if I recall correctly with Joshua and Gideon both scoring a hat trick . We controlled the breakdown gaining us most of the possession. Although we missed more tackles than we would of like, as a team we played fairly well. The first half was dominated by our team, Simon Langton did not stand a chance! Tries from myself Gideon, Kesavan, Joshua and Joel helped us on our way to victory! In the second half we were filled with fatigue and our lead started to slip away but with some tries from Joel and Joshua we strolled through to victory! Despite our second half struggles we won the match with a dominant performance. Overall I feel that Simon Langton have much improved and we have too. But still I think we have the slight edge over them.

U12A - Ben T

The start of the match could have gone either way, but Simon Langton managed to pull ahead in the first half. Halfway through the second half we were down 7-0 but we scored two quick tries near the end to make the finishing score 7-2. Both tries were scored by Ethan. Overall, I think we played quite well but we could improve on our line speed and our counter rucking. Our running started going very well in the second half. On the other hand, we got penalised multiple times for being offside in rucks which gave them an advantage. It was a good match despite the outcome.

# FIXTURE HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights of the various games our students played over the past week. Well done for all your hard work and dedication, you've done us all proud!

Please see link to the video highlights:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sMXaayV-pkE>



Link to full sports bulletin for 6th November to 10th December <https://www.beths.bexley.sch.uk/page/?title=Sports+Bulletin&pid=393>



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# LUNCH MENU W/C 13TH DECEMBER

INDEPENDENTCATERING | EDUCATER LIMITED



## MONDAY 13 DECEMBER

**MAIN** Traditional Spaghetti Bolognese with Garlic Bread,  
Fresh Broccoli and Sweetcorn  
**VEGETARIAN** Ratatouille Stuffed Peppers with Oregano Crumb Topping,  
New Potatoes, Broccoli and Sweetcorn  
**STREET FOOD** Look out for our Festive Food Market Fortnight - treats available all week  
**DESSERT** Fresh Fruit Salad with Shortbread

## TUESDAY 14 DECEMBER

**MAIN** Our Speciality Curries with a choice of Vegetable, Meat and  
Vegan Dishes served with Traditional Garnishes and Accompaniments  
**STREET FOOD** Look out for our Festive Food Market Fortnight - treats available all week  
**DESSERT** Carrot Cake with Custard

## WEDNESDAY 15 DECEMBER

**MAIN** Roast Loin of Pork with Apple Sauce, Roasted Potatoes,  
Winter Squash, Root Vegetables and Fresh Broccoli  
**VEGETARIAN** Cheese, Leek and Potato Pie with a Shortcrust Pastry with  
Roasted Butternut Squash and Broccoli  
**STREET FOOD** Look out for our Festive Food Market Fortnight - treats available all week  
**DESSERT** Chocolate Brownie and Ice Cream

## THURSDAY 16 DECEMBER

**MAIN** British Sausage with Red Onion and Thyme Gravy, served with  
Mashed Potato Fresh Carrots and Green Beans  
**VEGAN** Sweet Potato and Spinach Lasagne with Fresh Carrots and Green Beans  
**STREET FOOD** Look out for our Festive Food Market Fortnight - treats available all week  
**DESSERT** Banana Loaf with Custard

## FRIDAY 17 DECEMBER

**MAIN** Battered Cod and Chips, served with Garden Peas,  
Fresh Salad and Sauce Tartare  
**VEGAN** Chickpea and Coriander Burger with Chips, Baked Beans and Fresh Salad  
**STREET FOOD** Look out for our Festive Food Market Fortnight - treats available all week  
**DESSERT** Fruity Cupcakes

**AVAILABLE DAILY** FRESH CHEF'S SALAD - WHOLE GRAIN BREAD - GRAB AND GO POT MENU



**STREET FOOD**  
THE SPANIARD  
THE ITALIAN  
THE BIG FOOT  
THE ORIENTAL

### THE DELI

FRESH CUT SANDWICHES - ROLLS - WRAPS - PITTAS - BAGUETTES  
SEE THE BLACK BOARDS FOR SOUPS, THEME DAYS  
AND THE CHEF'S SPECIAL

**\*ALL OUR MENUS ARE TREE NUT AND PEANUT FREE**

INGREDIENTS CONTAINING GLUTEN (INDICATED BY THE NUMBER 1 ON THE MENU) WILL CONTAIN WHEAT, OATS, BARLEY, SPELT, RYE OR KAMUT, OR A COMBINATION THEREOF. IF YOU HAVE ANY ALLERGEN CONCERNS PLEASE SPEAK TO THE CATERING MANAGER. WHILST WE DO NOT BRING WHOLE NUTS OR INGREDIENTS WITH NUTS INTO OUR KITCHENS, SOME PRODUCTS ARE SUBJECT TO 'MAY CONTAIN' STATUS IN MANUFACTURING

WE ONLY USE



FRESH MEAT



FREE RANGE EGGS



MSC FISH



ORGANIC MILK



LOCAL PRODUCE



WHOLEMEAL PASTA

INDEPENDENTCATERING.CO.UK  
EDUCATERLIMITED.COM



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# BETHS PARENTS ASSOCIATION:

## 1. Parents Associations' latest events

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

## 3. Parents & Friends of Beths PA

At Beths Parents Association, our aim is to raise funds and improving the learning environment of our children. We have set up an annual campaign with a donation link for our fantastic projects, please visit our website for full details: <https://www.beths.bexley.sch.uk/page/?title=Parents+Association&pid=162>

## 1. Parents Associations' latest events

With the Festive Season round the corner, it is simple to make a difference for Beths students! Easy and quick ways to donate & it doesn't cost you anything!

## Generating donations with AmazonSmile and EasyFundraising

Please go to [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk) and search for Beths Parents Association. You need to start each of your shopping sessions at the URL [smile.amazon.co.uk](https://smile.amazon.co.uk).



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. If you are eligible, please also give gift aid to maximise the donation.



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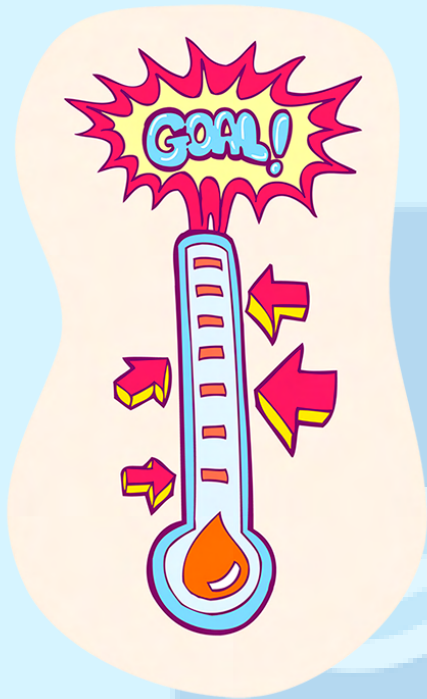
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# BETHS PARENTS ASSOCIATION:

## 2 . Raising money for these thrilling projects!



**£10,000  
goal**

**£1,719 already  
raised**



- Outdoor chess tables - £2, 000 **Help us Reach our goal of £550!!!**  
<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/16829>
- Radio Beths - £5, 000 **Share the NEWS and DONATE HERE!!!!**  
<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/17268>
- Musical instruments - £2, 000 **DONATE HERE!!!!**  
<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/17270>
- Lighting for drama - £1, 000 (£29 raised) **DONATE HERE!!!!**  
<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/17269>

Please remember to add the Gift Aid by ticking the box within your donations.  
Thank you!

Gift Aid can increase the total amount given; extra 25p for every £1 you give. For example with a £100 donation, the PA will receive £125.

\*Gift Aid is important for Beths Parents Association and means hundreds of pounds extra go to the school's project and benefit our children. Each time an eligible taxpayer donates and forgets to tick the Gift Aid box, the charity misses out.

\*Higher rate taxpayers can also claim part of the tax back from HMRC on their donations.



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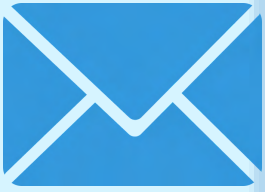
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# BETHS PARENTS ASSOCIATION:



Next meeting: on Tuesday 14th December,  
2021 @ 7.30pm - Zoom

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.com)



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