

# BETHS VIP

Excellence - Community - Respect - Nurture

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers,



This week has been taken over with the Bexley 11+ testing but we've still managed to squeeze some activities within the school. On Thursday 15th September, we celebrated "World Afro Day," more information and photos can be found in this VIP. To continue the Cultural theme, our MFL department will be celebrating the European Day of Languages on Monday 26th September. This year they have decided to focus on Polish and students will receive a lesson in Polish from the MFL department. In addition, other events are taking place around the school during that week in form times and there will be Polish food in the canteen. More information and photos will appear on that week's VIP edition.

Last week we held an Awards Presentation Evening for the last academic year, celebrating the achievement across all year groups. Photos of the evening can be found in this VIP.

We are looking for volunteers to help support our Sixth Form students in preparing for university, apprenticeship, and workplace interviews. If you could give up some time to help give student the experience of being interviewed, please complete the form link found in this VIP.

## Reminders:

Thursday 22nd September - Welcome afternoon to Year 7

Wednesday 28th September - 6th Form Sports Day @ Erith Athletics Stadium

Thursday 29th September - Welcome afternoon to Year 12

I hope you have a memorable long weekend, as we remember Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.



Kind regards,

Richard Blyghton

Have a great weekend,  
Richard Blyghton



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Everyone in the Beths Community is deeply saddened by the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. Our deepest sympathies go to the Royal Family at this time. Thank you to Her Majesty for her exemplary service to our country.



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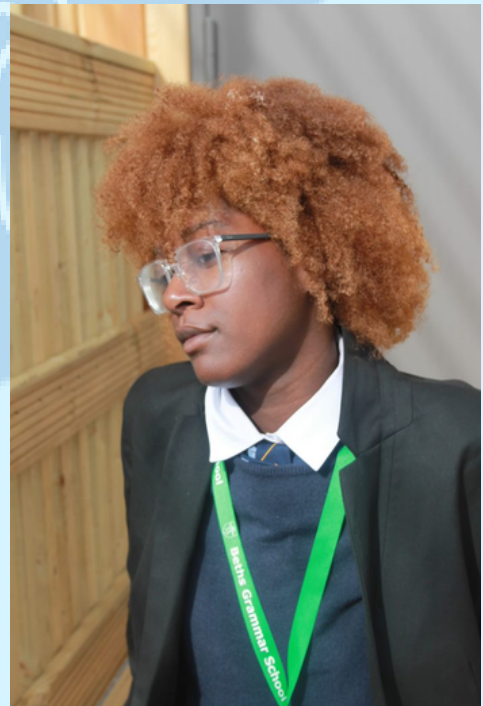
# WORLD AFRO DAY - 15TH SEPTEMBER BY BETHS MULTICULTURAL COMMITTEE

## So why should this be celebrated?

In the UK just over half of black students experienced name calling or uncomfortable questions about their hair at school, and a recent survey showed that 46% of parents say their children's school uniform policy penalizes afro hair.

The way you style afro-textured hair sometimes depends on the texture of the hair itself - it can't always be styled in the same ways that straight hair often is.

Some of the ways afro-textured hair is styled may also be against the rules in some schools and therefore it is up to us as members of the black or mixed-race community to stand up against such discrimination.



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# WORLD AFRO DAY - 15TH SEPTEMBER BY BETHS MULTICULTURAL COMMITTEE

## What is being done?

In the UK there is an act in place called 'The Halo Code' which guarantees black people in both schools and workplaces freedom and security to wear their hair as they want without any boundaries and discrimination. Dating back to slavery, afro hair has been controlled over and scrutinized to conform to the Western standards. Who decided cornrows are 'unprofessional' at interviews? As a community at Beths, it's important that we let members of the afro community know that all hair is to be welcomed and encouraged. Not for us to feel restrictions on how we may style our OWN hair.

"No one should have to change their natural or protective hairstyle in order to thrive. Together, we will ensure that all Black people can learn, work, and live free from hair discrimination."

~ **Edwina Omokaro, co-Founder of the Halo Collective**



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# WORLD AFRO DAY - 15TH SEPTEMBER

## BY BETHS MULTICULTURAL COMMITTEE

Basically, I've always had a good relationship, with my hair. Never really had a problem with it and I always got the same old haircuts. Lockdown was when I started to have a few problems, obviously because barbers were closed. My hair got really long, and I remember it would look so shabby. I didn't want to switch on my webcam during remote learning because of how insecure it made me feel. So, I decided to let my mum cut my hair and it did not look good, I know she did her best, but never again. So, after that, I decided to grow my hair out, and after lockdown I tried some new hairstyles which made my hair look good when it was longer, and it made me feel a lot more confident. There is no shame in having your hair long.

Bottom line, just experiment and see what works for you, because eventually you will find the perfect style. - **By Yaw, Year 12**



“My hair is a large part of who I am as a person, whether it's in braids or an afro puff my hair reflects me, as well as how I feel. Having kinky hair especially as a young African woman is important as it carries many stories and many unique traits, such as what tribe someone stems from and formerly person's social status. The ability to wear your hair naturally with confidence starts at home. Therefore, we need to normalise wearing our hair in its kinky glory to destigmatise it and show the future generation and the older one that our hair is in indeed acceptable.” - **By Sephora, Year 13**



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# AWARDS PRESENTATION EVENING

Last week we held our annual Awards Presentation Evening, where students across all year groups were awarded for their hard work and success throughout last academic year. The awards were presented by guest speaker Peter Bleksley and there was many fantastic musical performances throughout the evening.



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# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Over the coming months we are looking to support our Sixth Form students in preparing for university, apprenticeship, and workplace interviews.

Giving them the experience of being interviewed by someone they have never met is vital, and hard to recreate in school.

We would therefore be exceptionally grateful for any parents who would be willing to come and support us by interviewing a few students.

At this stage, we are simply trying to gauge interest. I will contact interested parties later on during the term once I have a sense of the numbers.

If you are interested, please take 30 seconds to fill in this form  
<https://forms.office.com/r/xGALNMwYGx>



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# SPORTS FIXTURES AND RESULTS

## Results for week commencing 12th September.

FOOTBALL					
14.09.22	KSFA League	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	V Bexley Grammar	Away	Won 2 – 3
RUGBY					
14.09.22	England Rugby	1 <sup>st</sup> XV	V Wilmington Grammar Boys	Away	Won 0 - 36

## Fixtures for week commencing 19th September.

FOOTBALL					
16.09.22	Friendly	U14A	V St Paul's Academy	Home	KO 3:40pm
20.09.22	U15 ESFA Rd 1	U15A	V Gable Hall School	Home	KO 3:30pm
20.09.22	U14A ESFA Rd 1	U14A	V Dover Grammar School for Boys	Away	KO 2pm
21.09.22	Kent League	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	V CTK, Sidcup	Home	KO 2pm
21.09.22	Kent League	2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	V Farringtons School	Home	KO 2pm
22.09.22	ESFA Rd 1	U13B	V Oakwood Park Grammar	Away	KO 3:45pm
22.09.22	KSFA Rd 1	U16A	V Eden Park	Home	KO 4pm
RUGBY					
17.09.22	Friendly	U15A	V Colfe's School	Away	KO 10am
17.09.22	Friendly	U14A	V Colfe's School	Home	KO 10am
17.09.22	Friendly	U13A	V Colfe's School	Away	KO 10am
17.09.22	Friendly	U12A	V Colfe's School	Home	KO 10am
17.09.22	Friendly	U12B	V Colfe's School	Home	KO 10am
20.09.22	Friendly	U13A	V Bexley Grammar	Home	KO 3:45pm
21.09.22	Friendly	1 <sup>st</sup> XV	V Simon Langton	Home	KO 2pm



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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 games 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

# ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom: it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as scammers, online predators, harassment, griefer and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as scam links or general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

#### PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

#### ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'ODers' and are quite common in Roblox. An ODer is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter ODers. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

#### IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, while it's possible to purchase a private or VIP server.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

#### SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

#### DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

#### PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has some genuine friends to play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child friendly – into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

#### MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.

#### DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with other people online safely.

### 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.

Sources: <https://www.vice.com/en/article/2020/11/21/2133343/roblox-over-half-of-us-kids-are-in-virtual-parties-for-life>  
<https://corp.roblox.com/parents/>

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)

[@natonlinesafety](https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety)

[/NationalOnlineSafety](https://www.facebook.com/NationalOnlineSafety)

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# BETHS PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Our first week back to school was an excellent opportunity to welcome our Year 7 families at the Sports event where the PA applied the 3Rs Scheme by re using and selling Nearly New Uniforms.

Beths Parents Association will continue to work closely with our School by providing fundings across engaging and educational projects to make the school environment student friendly.

Our sincere thanks to our amazing parents, families and several businesses for their generous donations and contributions.

The AGM of the Beths Parents' Association will be held on Tuesday 12st October 2022 at 7pm. It will take place via TEAMS, and we are looking forward to welcome new parents.

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

Beths PA Nearly New Uniform Sale took place on Saturday, 10th September morning alongside the Year 7 Sports event. Some PA members were very pleased to meet so many families. Thank you to all parents who made generous donations and gave another life to their child's school uniform. The PA will update you on the amount raised for the sale of both uniforms and refreshment.

PA Uniform Shop - We are selling these items, please email the PA via: [beths.parents.association@gmail.com](mailto:beths.parents.association@gmail.com). Simply drop them off at the School Reception!



The poster features the school crest on the left, which includes a horse and a ship's wheel. It lists various uniform items with their prices and provides contact information for donations and purchases. A diagonal line is drawn across the bottom right of the poster.

**BETHS PA  
NEARLY NEW UNIFORM SHOP**

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

Uniform Donations are very welcome.

Please contact for donations and purchases:  
[beths.parents.association@gmail.com](mailto:beths.parents.association@gmail.com)



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# BETHS PARENTS ASSOCIATION

On Tuesday 13th September, the PA had its first meeting of the academic year. Thank you to the parents who showed their interest and shared their exciting ideas.

Your PA needs you - Why not get involved as Chair, Vice Chair or simply a trustee to make a difference?



It is imperative for the survival of the Parents Association to have new members join and actively participate to ensure the succession of the present executive members. If any parents are interested in joining the committee meetings, then please contact us via email. We currently meet virtually on TEAMS, every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm.

To come: Foreign Coins Collection: we raised funds and enjoyed the experience! Please keep your foreign coins if you have travelled abroad during your summer holidays!

## **2.PA's exciting fundraising campaigns**



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:



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# BETHS PARENTS ASSOCIATION

<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)

## 2. Amazon Smile & Easyfundraising: Help us raise more funds while you do your shopping



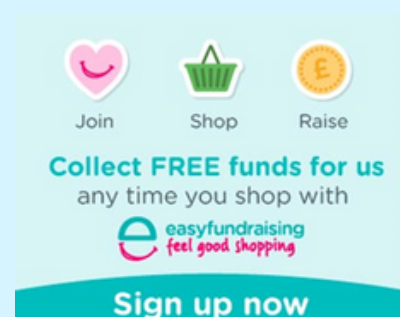
Raise even more funds and set up a challenge with your family and friends by asking them to select Beths Parents Association on AmazonSmile:

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.



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# BETHS PARENTS ASSOCIATION

## 3. Cash donations in collection buckets

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

- Books and equipment for the new library
- 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>

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

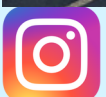


THANK YOU! Every £ helps us to get closer to our target goal

Beths PA is excited to announce the installation of the Outdoor Chess Table at the school's premises: Students are enjoying this new outdoor activity.



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.



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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

Year 7 Parents Evening Thursday 22nd September 2022 - PA members to greet new families and sell refreshments

Next PA meeting: Tuesday 8th September 2022 at 7.30pm (Teams)

AGM (Annual General Meeting): Tuesday 11th October 2022 at 7pm (Teams)

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://BethsParentsAssociation.com)

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