



Best of the Beths

ISSUE TWO

31/10/2019

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Happy Halloween — Where did it begin?

Halloween is an annual holiday celebrated on October 31st. Each year, many people celebrate this festival by going to parties in fancy dress, going out in your neighbourhood to trick or treat, carving pumpkins etc. However, this great holiday has aroused the question of when and how Halloween originated.

It is believed that this worldwide holiday

originates from about 2000 years ago, with the Ancient Celtic festival of Samhain in which people would light bonfires and wear costumes to scare off ghosts. Over time, this has developed greatly.

Halloween also is related to All Hallows' Day, the day before Halloween. Some Christians use this day to remember their lost ones and to finally

say goodbye. Some believe that until this date, their lost ones have been roaming the earth by themselves before reaching the after life.

In summary, there are lots of different tales and folklore of how Halloween has originated. This is because each different tale is accustomed to every individual and their culture.

Have a happy Halloween!

Levi A

PYO Pumpkins at Stanhill Farm

As Levi noted, a great way to get into the spirit of Halloween is to get carving some pumpkins.

At Stanhill Farm in Wilmington you can pick your own pumpkins! It's a lovely opportunity to spend some time with your

family doing something a little bit different. Welly boots or old trainers are advised as it can get very muddy, especially with the rainy weather we have been enjoying recently.

Here's my pumpkin...

Ms Stevens



Interviewing Mr Blyghton

In this edition of the Best of the Beths teacher interviews, I decided to interview someone who is very important to this school, and who in my opinion works hard every day to make the school what it is today. This person happens to be the Head Teacher – Mr. R. Blyghton.

When I first thought of interviewing Mr. Blyghton, I thought that he would turn it down, or that he wouldn't be able to see me. Luckily, Mr Blyghton instantly marked it down in his planner that I would be having a scheduled meeting in which I could interview him.

What are you most proud of at Beths?

I enjoy working with students because they are what matters in the Beths community and I am very proud of them all.

At Beths, we are beginning to build awareness about people's mental health. What are your thoughts on this?

I think that having good mental health is essential, however, I am aware that for many, this is not always the case. It's important to recognise when you are feeling low and having the confidence to speak to people about it.

What is the best thing we can do to combat bullying in the school?

The school does its best to stop bullying using CCTV cameras, and putting these in areas that have come to attention where bullying has been reported.

It's always helpful if students support one another and report any harmful behaviour that occurs. Even if you don't know the student, by looking at their tie and knowing the year group of the student who is acting in a threatening matter will enable staff to identify the culprit.

Tell us something about yourself that we wouldn't otherwise know.

I have 2 daughters who go to a local school in the area and they always tell me what to do.

How much money do you earn?

I never earn too much money because my two daughter's love to spend it all.

Thank you for allowing me to interview you Mr Blyghton! It was a fantastic opportunity.

Kwaku O



Cool Clubs — Get Involved!

Do you have a hobby, a religion or sport? At Beths we offer a great range of clubs for anyone who is interested to take part in an extra curricular activity.

The PE teachers at Beths always encourage everyone to try taking part in any sport whether it be rugby, cricket, football, basketball or something else that takes your fancy.

Perhaps you'd rather go to Geography club to learn interesting things that are not covered in lessons, or even get help for things you are learning about in lesson.

We also have a Nintendo club which takes place every Tuesday in A7 and Film club on a Friday in B4 for people who want to take part in a more recreational activity.

Marcus Fonseca went to the chess club last year and he has said that he really enjoyed going there: *'I made new friends, won competitions and learnt more skills. Going to a club whether it be academic or just for fun is good. You can make new friends or just test your skills against somebody else.'*

David Adegboye said he has been to THE Robotics club held by Mr Morgan and thought that it challenged his mind.

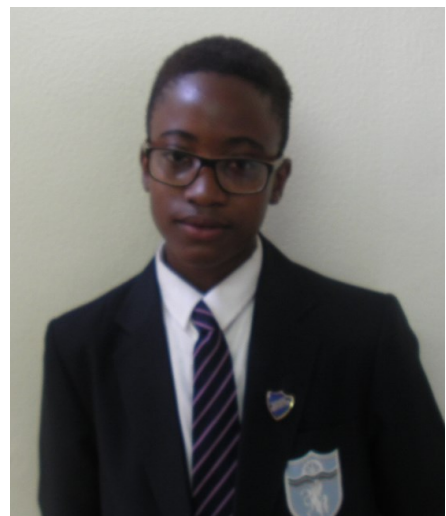
Being part of a club and regularly attending is all about having fun. If you are in a club you can develop key life skills. Not only this, but they are completely free and so we should take advantage of the

things on offer here at Beths. If you are not a very confident person, going to a club can help you grow in confidence. Learning an instrument or learning an extra language can help in making you stand out as unique amongst your friends as well as allowing you to have increased opportunities in your life.

I personally enjoy being a part of the School Newsletter club because it challenges my writing and teaches me things about the school that I didn't know before. Although all of the newsletter team applied for their positions, you can get involved by being our guest writer for 'The Guest Edit'. Here, you can write an article, a piece of imaginative writing or express your views on a topic of interest. If this is something that you are interested in, then please see Ms Stevens in B3 for further information about.

I really hope that you are now inspired to join a club and I hope to see you in one soon!

David



Sporting Highlights in October

It has been yet another successful sporting month for Beths, with triumph in all events participated in. This article contains all of the fixtures and results from October 2019.

In the basketball, the Under 12 A team travelled to Ravenswood and drew 34-34. A good result and beating Hayes at home 55-33 in the County Cup only a week later added to this glory.

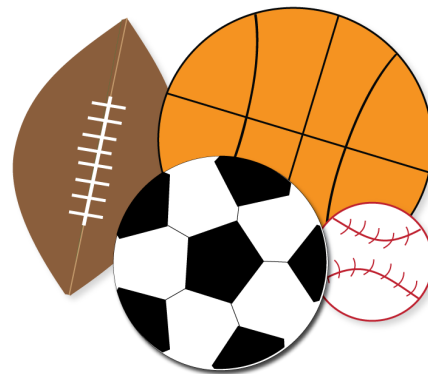
In the rugby, we didn't do as well as we would probably have hoped, with the Under 12 B's losing to Maidstone Grammar School 10-35 and the Under 12 A's unfortunately losing to them as well 15-25.

In Year 9 however, Gravesend Grammar School were beaten by us again in the County Cup 24-22 – a very close game. The Under 15A's put up a good fight against Bennett Memorial Diocesan School but lost 10-62.

Football was a success, and the Year 7 B team beat Bexleyheath Academy a whopping 10-0. As well as this, the Year 7 A team won 2-1 away against Welling. In Year 8, the A team challenged Oxted School in Round One of Nationals and beat them 4-1 coming from behind to win the game.

The Second XI were triumphant, having won two out of two this month, first beating St Mary's 6-1 and then destroying Farringtons 9-1. The First XI have also done well, heavily defeating Maidstone Grammar 6-1.

Daniel



The Success of Open Morning

On Saturday 12th October Beths Grammar School hosted their most successful open morning yet. Not only was it a great success, but it was the first time that the school opened on a weekend to be visited by prospective students. On the day, Hamadin noted down the key points of interest on his tour.

The beginning

When tour guides were registered, they would be handed their tour route for which they would use for the remainder of the day. From there they would wait until a prefect gave them a route to begin the tour and then introduce the family that they would be touring.

The Passport

During the open morning, visitors were given a passport which they needed to fill up with stamps from all of the departments across the school. This offered visitors with a challenge for them to complete which they were eager to do when they visited each department. This was fantastic to see, because it is the exact attitude that we instil at Beths.

Activities and Opportunities

History made a fantastic impression because they had a practical activity which involved creating a sculpture of historical monuments out of play-dough.

The Science department were carrying out lots of experiments during the morning which offered new experiences and approaches to learning that students

hadn't seen before.

Thoughts and Feelings on the day

Initially as a tour guide, I felt a bit worried that I would do something wrong or upset the parents. However, as soon as I answered the first questions of the family I was touring, I immediately gained confidence in what I was doing. As the day went on, not only was I enjoying the tour with the family, but it was clear that they were also enjoying themselves and getting involved in the activities that we came across during the tour.

Thank you to all who attended and helped during the open morning to contribute to its success.

Hamadin



Brexit Timeline of Events



October 14th

Queen's speech to Parliament is set to end the suspension

October 17th

British parliament reopens

October 17-18th

EU leaders meet with the PM to address departure terms

October 21st-24th

The European parliament meets in Strasbourg for the last time, marking the departure of UK MEPs

Today, Britain should be finally leaving the European Union. Yet we are delaying Brexit yet again until the end of January. But to what extent is Brexit the priority of this country? Is there something more damaging that has been revealed about us as a nation? I interviewed Mrs Quinn, an English teacher, on her views of Brexit. She said: *'My opinion on Brexit is that it has demonstrated how divided we are as a nation. Whether we leave or remain becomes almost irrelevant, what we need to do is try to unite this country and everyone in it, regardless of their background.'*

A poignant point has been raised by Mrs Quinn here and something needs to be done to unite us as a country on our views of what is important to our nation.

Ben S

Word Of The Month — Tenacious

Tenacious - adjective - tending to keep a firm hold of something; clinging or adhering closely.

Those who have a passion are lucky. Those who take the correct steps towards their passion will improve. Those who are tenacious in what they do will go far in life. You may hear this all the time, but it is true; it's some of the best advice someone can ever give you. There are many different examples of showing tenacity. For example;

You may not understand a concept in a subject and feel dejected after what seems like everyone else being able to understand. However, you are tenacious in your studies and so you seek a friend's help and they try to help you - but you still don't understand. You go to your teacher after school and they explain it to you - but you still don't understand.

Others, at this point, would simply give up. You are different, because you are tenacious. You decide to go home and study for hours on end finding numerous videos and explanations to help your case. In the end, you understand this topic better than anyone else in your class and come out with the best score. This example just shows how being tenacious can get you far and how with hard work, you'll finally get to where you want to be.

Levi A

Back to it for the football team!

Michael Yeo is the current captain of the football A team for Beths. David A went to interview him about the his most recent football match against Oxted School.

How did you and your team feel walking in to the match?

Walking into the match we had confidence and we were determined to play our best. However, that still didn't take away the element of nervousness.

Did the feeling of nervousness change throughout the match?

No not really, although we gained a lead in the match we didn't ease up because we still knew that the other team could easily pull it back.

What went well throughout the match?

We passed well and the defence kept a good line. As well as this, the wingers were making good runs even though it didn't always end in us making the goal.

How did you feel throughout the match?

Despite our nerves, we felt confident throughout the match. Although the team nearly scored twice, our keeper managed to keep the goals out of the net and our heads were up after our first goal.

Did your attitude towards the team change after the win?

After the match we knew we wouldn't be scared facing Oxted School again. I am a lot more confident in the team and what we can achieve, knowing that it is possible to beat teams like Oxted.

Who do you think was M.V.P of the match?

I think Alex J was our most valuable player. This is because he came in as our keeper last minute and performed really well to keep the ball out of the goal.

What do you need to do to improve the A team?

I think a problem that we need to work on is communication during the match. There was no communication in the defence, so this requires the most improvement as there were some errors in the match that we played.

David



The Guest Edit—Social Gaming

In this month's guest edit, Mr O'Regan reviews six of the best social games...

6th Position—CHESS

No review of any form of gaming could be complete if Chess wasn't given a mention.

This ancient 1500 year old game of strategy, cunning and logic originated in India before spreading to Persia (Middle East) and then Europe. Though silence is often required to concentrate many great friends can be made in the brain tussles which are integral to this game.



5th Position—WARHAMMER

What could be more social than inviting 3 or 4 friends over to re-enact great battles on the dining room table with hundreds of tiny little figures? This game has great potential for socialising with friends for long periods however the potential controversy over complex rules, the adversarial nature of this game and the impact on your fellow family members can run the risk of creating antisocial gaming if you are not careful.

4th Position—RISK

Risk is a board game classic where you battle to conquer the world in a game mixing strategy, chance and an understanding of simple probability. Though this game has no intrinsic social element when the missions are played well, the game can be won or lost in the political intrigue of the alliances formed; and broken.

3rd Position—WEREWOLF

Sometimes called Mafia this game is by definition social. It was invented in 1986

Most of the players are villagers however there are a few werewolves in their midst who will gobble up a hapless victim each night. Through a system of bluff combined with logical reasoning the villagers need to work out who the werewolf is before everyone gets eaten. The only limitation is that Werewolf only gets really fun if there are 7+ players.

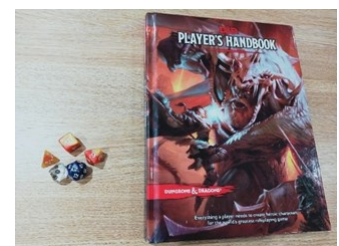


2nd Position—CARDS

Whether travelling around Asia on your gap year or meeting up with friends to play, the universal appeal of relaxing with a standard pack of playing cards will win you friends your whole life. It takes a little effort to learn a few good games – Cribbage (2 players) or Knock-out Whist (2+) are a good place to start.

1st Position—DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

The ultimate in social gaming is to get three or more friends together, create a set of fantastic characters and use this classic



role play game to explore undiscovered worlds and create mythical and fantasy stories that can only be limited by your imagination.

Mr O'Regan
Maths teacher, Deputy
Head Teacher and KS4



Fifa 20 — Players To Buy: Who to Watch

Welcome to the first gaming section of the Best of the Beths newsletter. Here, we will discuss popular games at the moment, advice and tips and tricks to keep your gaming knowledge up to date. Here are two players that I would recommend you purchase as soon as possible...

Sébastien Haller

West Ham United

Selling for 20,000 FUT coins

Although his pace isn't the best for the ideal striker, his strength is more than enough to keep the defence away from him. Also Haller has scored 3 goals in 4 games played meaning he is bound to get another inform to raise the rating of him. This means if you invest in him now you have a big chance of making profit if you sell him after he gets an inform.



Philippe Coutinho

Bayern München

Selling for 250,000 FUT coins

This is a more expensive purchase for the FIFA players out there but if you can afford him he is definitely worth it. Matches against VfL Bochum, FC Augsburg, Olympiakos and Union Berlin are matches that Bayern are bound to win should Coutinho perform, an inform card is likely which will increase his price and one to watch card rating.



Reuben H

FORTNITE Chapter 2 — It's Here!



It has been a long road getting here, including over thirty hours of staring at a black hole, but the game is now back online and with some massive changes.

As a regular player of the game, I have become accustomed to drops of new content every ten weeks or so. Nothing has ever been updated on this scale before: there's a new map, new default skins, new items and so much more!

We're still sifting through exactly what is different in the most recent update because this one doesn't seem to have been released with any patch notes, unlike every other patch in this game's history. Epic appears to want us to discover the updates ourselves, which is exactly what we are going to do.

Let's take a look at the biggest changes that we can see here at the beginning of the season:

Water

Water is a big focus of this map, and there are some nice improvements to go along with this. We've now got boats and the ability to swim and even dive a tiny amount. There are also some nice water effects, although you won't be able to see these at lower graphics settings.

New Default Skins

This is one update that you can notice as you open up a match: we have got new default skins, saying goodbye to the ones that we have played with for over a year. Don't worry—the characters remain, they are just wearing different clothes.

Better Graphics

I am fairly certain that during play I noticed some lighting improvements in alongside the better water effects. There definitely seems to be a bump up at the highest level. I am curious to see whether or not Digital Foundry or some other tech experts are going to take a look at things to improve this even more.

New Map

This update is hard to miss. But after 10 seasons we said goodbye to the old map in dramatic fashion, and now we are setting out to explore the new one. The in-game mini-map is greyed out when you first drop in, and you have to do it gradually.

There is still so much to look forward to in the updates of FORTNITE and I look forward to uncovering more!

Pharrell O

Quizzing Corner — Word search

G	R	A	M	M	A	R	B	B	B	Y	H	T	E
G	M	E	C	O	Y	C	G	H	B	S	S	C	H
M	C	N	B	S	M	E	P	Y	G	I	G	I	A
N	R	G	R	T	A	S	E	A	R	D	L	E	Y
B	A	L	A	A	H	B	A	L	S	E	N	T	M
E	Y	I	M	S	K	B	L	I	M	I	O	E	R
T	N	S	P	C	C	C	A	S	B	D	B	G	E
H	M	H	T	O	I	A	E	E	H	S	A	A	S
S	T	P	O	M	W	T	L	E	R	T	R	O	A
Y	A	H	N	E	C	N	E	I	C	S	A	C	B
I	G	H	C	B	E	X	L	E	Y	I	S	M	B
B	E	H	M	R	T	S	R	U	H	A	A	T	E
T	O	B	R	Y	G	E	M	S	I	D	H	S	Y
R	E	K	L	I	S	X	S	W	E	A	E	M	I

GRAMMAR
EARDLEY
WICKHAM
ENGLISH
HURST
MATHS
SCIENCE
CRAY
BEXLEY
BRAMPTON
BETHS
ABBEY

Quizzing Corner — Answers

- Q.1) Which country retained the ashes this year? — Australia
 Q.2) How many countries are in the rugby world cup this year? — 20
 Q.3) How many times did Sarah Thomas swim the English Channel non-stop? — 4
 Q.4) What was the Man City vs Watford score? — 8-0
 Q.5) How many times has VAR had to be used in the premier league this season so far? — Over 15 times!
 Q.6) Who is top of the Premier League table so far? — Liverpool
 Q.7) Who is the premier league's top scorer this season so far? — Sergio Agüero
 Q.8) What premier league teams have had goals disallowed by VAR this season? — Man City, Brighton and Hove Albion, Leicester City, Chelsea, Tottenham and many more!
 Q.9) What does VAR stand for? — Video Assistant Referee
 Q.10) Did England win their first rugby World Cup game? — Yes, they beat Tonga 35-3!



The solved word search in next month's Best of the Beths.

Tom B