

# BETHS VIP

Excellence - Community - Respect

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Dear Parents, Carers,

Over the last couple of Biology lessons, Year 12 scholars have done two different experiments. One involved working ethically with small living organisms called Daphnia. The second experiment saw them working to calculate Vitamin C concentrations in various fruit juices.

Last week, members of the Odyssey Theatre came in to speak to top music scholars in years 11-13 about Tchaikovsky's 'Nutcracker' and the 'Symphony'. They discussed its key themes and they also got to play as a small orchestra on one of the main themes of the movement.

Work is underway for this year's production of Shrek. It has been busy in Mr Hayman's workshop with starting to make the dragon for the set. They are joined by the mascot Fiona, which was thanks to Ms Quinn's mom, so a shout out to her! It's wonderful to see the play being brought to life on stage and the work that goes in to making the props and set that add the magic to the performance.

Last week, Chinese Club returned, with the session on Chinese paper cutting being led by Mr Yang. Scholars learnt about the symbolism of different paper-cut designs before making their own paper-cut masterpieces.



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This Tuesday, scholars from year 10,11,12 and 13 went to watch Operation Mincemeat, a fast-paced comedy musical. Although it was raining all day, it was still an amazing experience enjoyed by everyone.

Next week, we have our final two sixth form open days. The first is on the 19th and the last one is on the 21st of January.

A reminder that the 31<sup>st</sup> of January is the closing date for the Sixth Form Applications. The link to complete this is under Sixth Form Admissions and then 'Sixth Form Application'. This will take you to Applica.

The Local Authority have informed us that the process for opting in to the 11+ testing for September 2026 will open the 1<sup>st</sup> of March and close on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March. This is instead of the usual May time.

Best wishes,

Richard Blyighton



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# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



**Monday 19th January** - 14:00 Sixth Form Open Afternoon

**Wednesday 21st January** - 09:15-10:15 Sixth Form Open Morning

**Thursday 22nd January** - Meeting (virtual) and 18:00-19:00 Year 12 Work Experience meeting for students and parents online

**Thursday 29th January** - Year 9 vaccinations

**Friday 30th January** - Closing date for Sixth Form Applications



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# BIOLOGY LESSONS



Over the past few weeks, year 12 scholars have been developing their practical skills in A-level Biology. They have worked ethically with small living organisms called Daphnia, which are amazing to look at under the microscope as they are transparent. Their transparency makes it easy to monitor their heart rate, as contractions can be easily observed and counted. Scholars have also worked to calculate Vitamin C concentrations in various fruit juices. Vitamin C is an important part of a balanced diet and research has shown that it is linked to cardiovascular health.



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# ODYSSEY THEATRE WORKSHOP



Last Friday, we had members of the Odyssey Orchestra working with our top music scholars in years 11-13. Their session was spent talking and playing through the works from Tchaikovsky, specifically his 'The Nutcracker Suite' and his Symphony No. 6 "Pathétique". Scholars also had the opportunity to play as a small orchestra one of the main themes from a movement. Then they explored some of the key themes and developments of the symphony in this time period. Our A level students will attend their concert on 21st January at Cadogan Hall.



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# SHREK THE MUSICAL: BEHIND THE SCENES



Here are some production shots from Mr Hayman's set design workshop. The Dragon's head is currently being built and painted, and they were joined by our new production mascot - Princess Fiona.

Shout out to Ms Quinn's mum for making her! You may see her popping up at rehearsals, reading her lines or trying on costume. Keep your eyes peeled!



Photos courtesy of Mr Hayman



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# CHINESE CLUB

Last week Chinese Club returned, with the first session led by Mr Yang. The classroom was buzzing and packed with enthusiastic scholars keen to immerse themselves in Chinese culture.

During the session, scholars were introduced to Chinese paper cutting, an ancient folk art recognised by UNESCO as part of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Scholars explored the rich symbolism behind different paper-cut designs before getting hands-on themselves. Armed with red paper and scissors, they practised folding and cutting techniques to create their own unique paper-cut masterpieces.

We look forward to many more inspiring Chinese Club sessions every Week 2 Friday lunch time in S18.



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# OPERATION MINCEMEAT



Students from year 10, 11, 12 and 13 went to see Operation Mincemeat on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January. "The year is 1943 and right now we're losing the war. Luckily, we're about to gamble all our futures on a stolen corpse." A brilliant fast paced comedy musical had the students drawn in from the very start and even though it rained the whole way there it did not dampen the experience. The group had a brilliant time and would recommend the show to everyone.



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# THE PINK DIARY PODCAST

# THE PINK DIARY

BECAUSE EVERY GIRL'S STORY DESERVES  
A PAGE IN THE PINK DIARY



Welcome to The Pink Diary Podcast!

Preview · Dec 16 · The Pink Diary

Save on Spotify



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# ALUMNI



Whether you left Beths Grammar School last year or a few decades ago, we would love to hear from you!

Join our alumni community to catch up with old friends, hear about future events or even see if you can help with contributing to the development of current and future students of Beths

Fill out the contact form and we will be in touch. We look forward to hearing from you!

Beths Alumni Student contact form : <https://forms.office.com/e/UB4Z2iHS3b>



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# VACCINES



South London Children and  
Young People's Community  
Immunisation Service

Your child is now due their  
**teenage vaccines**

Protect them against:

- diphtheria,
- tetanus,
- polio, and
- meningococcal disease

Make sure you  
complete their  
consent form today!



January 2025



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# PARENTS' ASSOCIATION MEETINGS



Supporting Community, Causes and Care

## Parents' Association Meetings 2026

Please find listed below, the dates for the online Parents' Association meetings (using Microsoft Teams).

Please contact the PA at [info@bethspa.co.uk](mailto:info@bethspa.co.uk) for further information or join the Beths community on Classlist at <http://join.bethspa.co.uk>

The links to join will be sent out on Classlist and in the VIP newsletter.

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February @ 7pm  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March @ 7pm  
Wednesday 15th April @ 7pm  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May @ 7pm  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June @ 7pm  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July @ 7pm



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# ODDBALLS BOBBLE HAT

BACK IN STOCK  
OddBalls



STORE.BETHSPA.CO.UK



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# BETHS UNIFORM

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UNIFORM & MERCH

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ACCESS PRE LOVED & NEARLY  
NEW UNIFORM AND BETHS  
MERCHANDISE  
[STORE.BETHSPA.CO.UK](http://STORE.BETHSPA.CO.UK)



FIND OUT MORE ON CLASSLIST  
[JOIN.BETHSPA.CO.UK](http://JOIN.BETHSPA.CO.UK)



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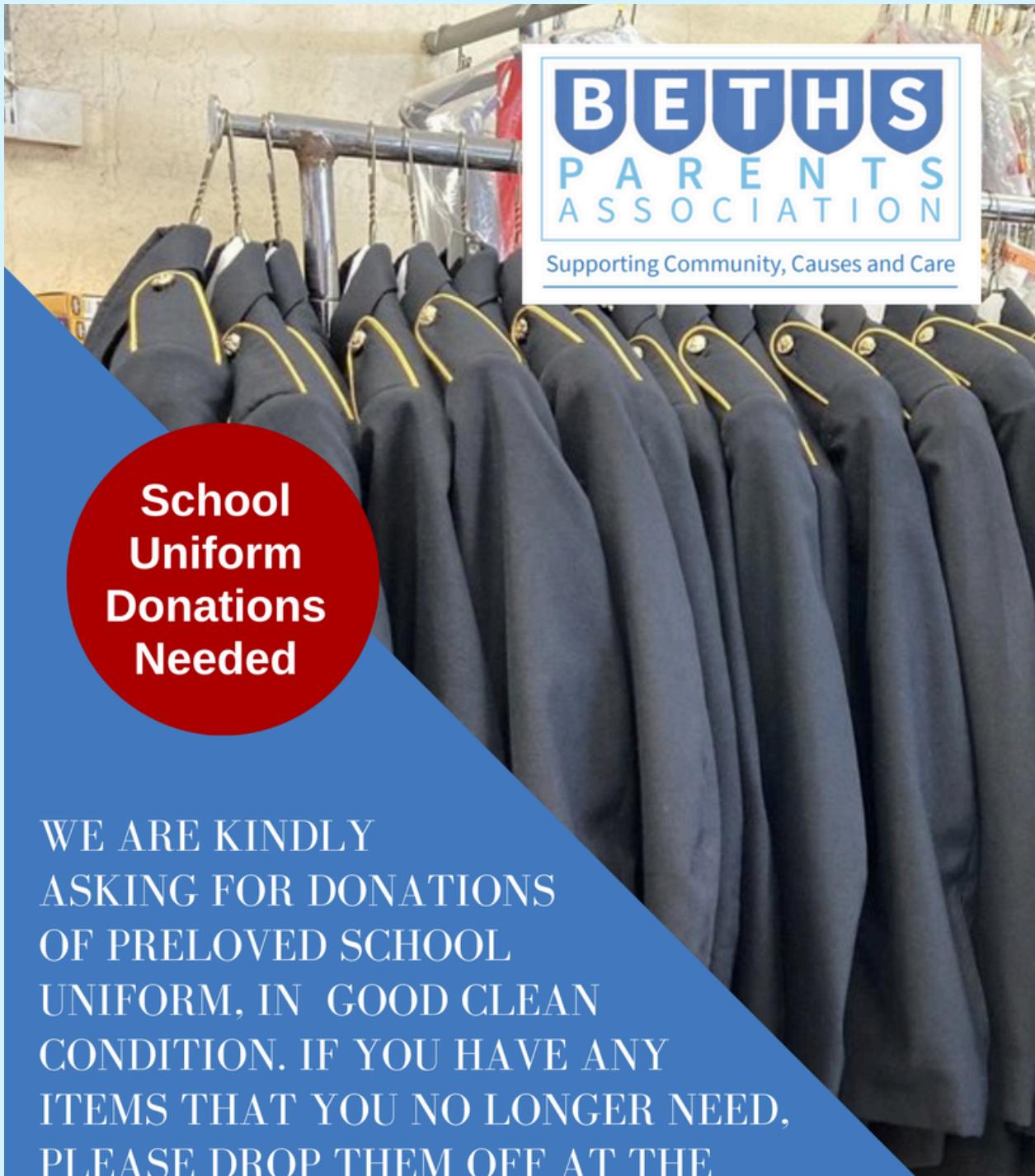


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# BETHS PARENTS ASSOCIATION



**BETHS  
PARENTS  
ASSOCIATION**

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**School  
Uniform  
Donations  
Needed**

WE ARE KINDLY ASKING FOR DONATIONS OF PRELOVED SCHOOL UNIFORM, IN GOOD CLEAN CONDITION. IF YOU HAVE ANY ITEMS THAT YOU NO LONGER NEED, PLEASE DROP THEM OFF AT THE SCHOOLS MAIN RECEPTION

All profits from subsequent uniform sales, will go towards the Parents Association supporting good causes. Thank you for your Kindness.



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