



YEAR 10 NEWSLETTER

July 2026

The highlights

Report data and Achievement

In transitioning to KS4 this year, Year 10 have now received two sets of reports that explicitly reflect their potential outcomes and predictions for their GCSE subjects. As a result, this has changed the way that we engage with our academic successes and the way that scholars reflect on the work that they complete both in school and at home.

The expectations placed upon Year 10 have maintained high from September to now - whether that be through two hours of work per night, or the challenge of the Trial Exams in April. Before the Trial Exams, we felt the pressure of the legacies before us, knowing that the previous year group had exceeded trends from the year before them.

There are very few challenges that concern me with this year group. This too, was not one I held personally and rightly so, for this group of Year 10 scholars, I am pleased to report, have produced the best set of data in Trial Exams for Year 10 on record.

To highlight some of those remarkable year group wins to you more clearly:

- 45.3% of the year group achieved a Grade 7-9 in English and Maths.
- 74% of the year group achieved a Grade 7-9 in English, compared with 18.4% in the National results for 2025.
- 53.6% of the year group achieved a Grade 7-9 in Maths, compared with 22.2% in the National results for 2025.
- 57.3% of the year group achieved a Grade 7-9 across all subjects.

Considering that this is the first set of Trial Exam data, I am so incredibly proud of all that the year group have achieved and know that this is just the very beginning of a successful GCSE journey.

Reflecting on 2026 so far

Since returning from the Winter break in January, the year group have been exceptionally busy.

We started off 2026 with two Jack Petchey workshops in which 64 scholars had the opportunity to speak out on something important to them in delivering a speech to their peers. Whilst this year we did not win the Speak Out Challenge, it was a privilege to be in the presence of so many young people developing in their confidence and articulation. As well as this, two scholars attended a STEM competition at the University of East London and won, being the only group to

to complete the challenge!

In March the English department celebrated Spring Book Week where 32 Year 10 were selected to take part in a full day poetry workshop and the entire cohort received a literary lecture on Jekyll and Hyde in preparation for Trial Exams. It was in this month where our preparation for the Trial Exams really began and this carried us through to April where all exams were completed in the space of just over a week. During this time the Exam team were filled with praise for the conduct of Year 10 in entering the Sports Hall for their examinations.

In May we had two successful Duke of Edinburgh expeditions. One slightly wetter than the other! It is also with great sadness that we completed our last ever Sports Day as a year group. Despite the challenges of Trial Exams, we continued with our annual creative initiative with each tutor group producing a poster in which Cray were victorious in this competition and with Abbey, once more, winning the Sports Day events.

As well as this, it was my privilege to spend a week in May with Year 10 Geologists in the Isle of Wight. Whilst the weather was slightly unkind to us in the beginning, we had an absolute blast and managed to squeeze in several hours of rock observations. Speaking as a teacher of English, I promise it is more fun than it sounds...

Throughout the year, the Careers Junior Prefect team have worked hard alongside Mrs Wakeling in creating a curriculum of Careers sessions. These sessions have been delivered by Careers prefects during registration periods for all scholars to enjoy, focusing on a range of careers of interest within the year group.

The wider Junior Prefect team have worked incredibly hard in supporting a range of school-wide events such as the Winter, Spring and Summer concerts, Parents' Evenings and more recently the Year 6 Induction events for our new Year 7

cohort for next academic year. All of these events have tested the communication, leadership and resilience of the prefect team. I am very grateful for all that they have done this year to support me and develop their all essential skills. Without the Junior Prefects, the recent Year 10 Celebration day in July would not have been possible.

Year 10 Celebration Day

As I have said in recent assemblies to Year 10 scholars, the hard work and resilience that they have shown this year deserves recognition and merit. This month's celebration day allowed scholars to relax and engage with their peers by taking part in a number of physical and interactive sessions. Days like this are not possible without the Junior Prefects, who diligently planned and supported the delivery of these events.

A huge well done to Brampton who won the House competition for the egg parachute activity and well done to Eardley who won the quiz.

To the Junior Prefects, I am incredibly grateful for their support. To the year group, I hope that they had a wonderful day. It was my privilege to run a day like this for them. With the public exams taking place next year, we will not have another day quite like it in KS4!

Reminders

With the warm weather, the standard of uniform has been a little sporadic at the end of term. Uniform will return to normal expectations in September and is outlined here: [Uniform Expectations](#).

Whilst our scholars enter Year 11 and continue to grow ever more, it is important that they still adhere to the same uniform as in years gone by. The Beths Parents' Association sells a range of pre-loved uniform items that can be found here: [Beths Pre-loved uniform](#).

Final reflections

It is hard for me to grasp the fact that Year 10 is now at an end. It feels like only yesterday I was standing in front of you in the hall in September talking about the journey we were about to embark upon. I am so incredibly proud of all of the work and commitment they have shown to their GCSE courses. The next year is going to be challenging as we embark ever closer to the real exams. I have no doubt that the year group will continue to make you, myself and most importantly themselves proud in all that they do.

Finally, I wanted to inform you all that in May this year I got married. In September, I will be returning to Beths Grammar School as Mrs Dawson. Don't worry, it's still me and I haven't gone anywhere!

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable Summer break and look forward to seeing you, and your scholars, next year.

Miss Stevens, Head of Year 10



The snapshot



Year book competition

Whilst I refuse to accept Year 10 will be leaving me and transitioning to the Sixth Form at Beths next year, it is important that I plan for this eventual transition. As a Head of Year, it has been my priority to provide the year group with as many collaborative opportunities and creative initiatives. Particularly for the benefits they provide to our general wellbeing!

I have one final creative initiative for the year group which is to design a cover for a Year Book which will document scholars' experiences at Beths in their time at KS3 and KS4. More details of this will be shared on Satchel and Teams with Year 10 on Tuesday, 21st July.

I would love to see as many of your scholars spend some time over the holiday designing a cover for a year book which they feel represents their journey here at Beths. The deadline for this is Monday, 14th September.

