BRAND NEW BMS THEATRE SPACE

Mr Turner – Executive Principal

Bushey Meads School now boasts a brand new theatre space and, during this week, state of the art sound-proof partition doors have been fitted, enabling the inspiring space to be multipurpose — at times a large open theatre and at other times two purpose built drama studios.



Having invested a significant amount of money in creating the excellent facility, which has a modern industrial feel to it, it demonstrates the school's continued commitment to enhancing our facilities to fully support student learning and achievement – not least in our dynamic performing and visual arts faculty where students continue to excel at the highest level.

Our value added measures in the performing arts continue to be some of the highest across the school; we wish all the students well as they enjoy these excellent facilities for their lessons and future performances.



Dates for the diary

Tues 5th December Yr 10 & 12 Parents Ski Presentation

Fri 8th December Y11 into Y12 Taster Sessions

Tues 12th December Christmas Music & Arts Concert

Thurs 14th December Christmas Lunch

Weds 20th December Term Ends at 12:20pm

Weds 3rd January Terms Starts at 11:00am



State of the art sound-proof partition doors



Students enjoying the excellent new facilities

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

KEY STAGE 3



Holly (7 Ash)

This week's KS3 student of the week is Holly 7 Ash, Holly has produced some truly outstanding book reviews during her Literacy lessons with Mr. Back in the LRC. As a result of her determination and hard work Holly has gained herself a place on the Harry Potter trip next year. Congratulations Holly and keep up with this fantastic effort.

KEY STAGE 4



Brendon (11 Beech)

This weeks KS4 student of the week is Brendon 11 Beech for his exceptional attitude to his learning. Brendon always approaches all his lessons with focus and positivity and this translates in excellent results. Excellent attendance, coupled with this brilliant attitude will no doubt ensure success for him this summer. Keep up the great work!





Camron (13 Ash)

This week's KS5 student of the week is Camron 13 Ash. At the 6th form seminar to the University of Hertfordshire, Philosophy Department organised by Ms. Walters, Cameron's contribution in the question and answer session held with Dr. Brendan Larvor the Head of Philosophy greatly reflected the ethos and learning culture here at Bushey Meads School.

Camron is a hard working student who has 100% attendance and cycles 30 minutes each way to come into school every day – now that's dedication!

WORD OF THE WEEK (WOW)

Ms Bowe – Lead Practitioner for English and Whole school Literacy

Language is empowering



Word of the Week 27.11.17 early 17th century (in the sense 'sportive, intended as a jest'): from Latin ludicrus (probably from ludicrum 'stage play') + -ous

Ludicrous means ridiculous Ludacris is the name of a rapper



Pronounce it: Lew-di-crus

Definition •

- so foolish, unreasonable, or out of place as to be almost amusing

Ludicrous things are funny, absurd, or nonsensical. If someone says something silly or far-fetched, you could say "That's ludicrous!" Ludicrous originally meant something that was funny, playful, or joking: a ludicrous comment was just a really funny comment.

Over time, *ludicrous* has taken on a more negative flavour. Now a ludicrous statement might be funny, but it's also ridiculous, hard to believe, off the wall, stupid, or even uncaring. When people say 'a nurse's workload and pay are ludicrous', they are saying it is ridiculous, unmanageable and poorly paid...but what's being done about it?! Sentence examples:

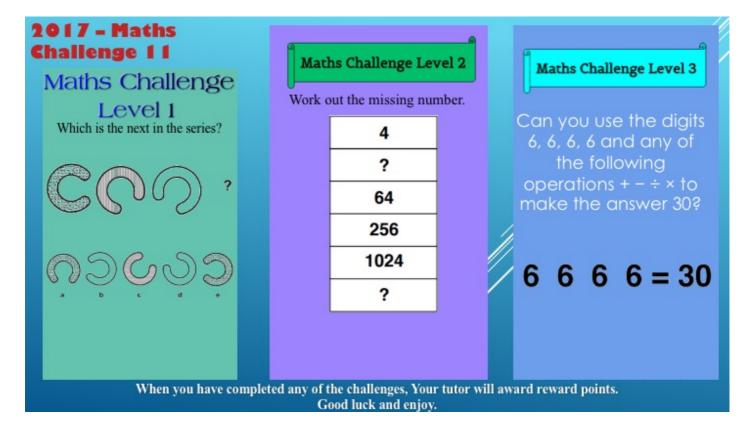
-It was ludicrous to imagine he would become president, but look what happened!

Use it instead of: absurd, ridiculous, farcical, laughable, silly, foolish, stupid, mad, insane.

Challenge: use this word in a conversation, or piece of writing this week.

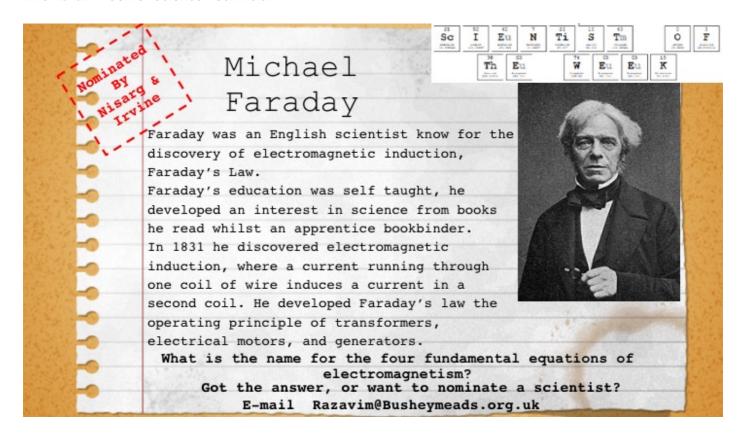
MATHS CHALLENGE OF THE WEEK

Mr Akram - Lead Practitioner for Maths



SCIENTIST OF THE WEEK

Mrs Razavi - Senior Science Technician



PASTORAL NOTICES

Mobile Phones – Please note that the use of mobile phones for KS3 <u>and</u> KS4 students is strictly prohibited during the course of the school day. All phones need to be switched off and should not be seen at all by staff. Any violation of this rule is subject to confiscation for up to two weeks depending on the circumstances.

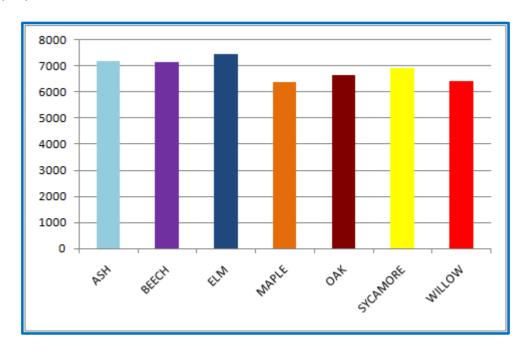
Lateness — Please remember that if you are late to school after tutor time, you MUST sign in at the student window before going to your lesson.

Road Safety — It's really great to see so many of our students riding their bikes to school and it fits perfectly with our Healthy Schools status. We'd be even happier to see them all wearing helmets in the interests of their own personal safety! Take care of yourselves and be safe please!

Break and Lunchtimes — students are reminded that the fields are now out of bounds due to the weather conditions making the field very muddy. Students seen on the fields will be sanctioned in accordance with the behaviour policy.

HOUSE CUP UPDATE

Mrs Ash - Deputy Headteacher

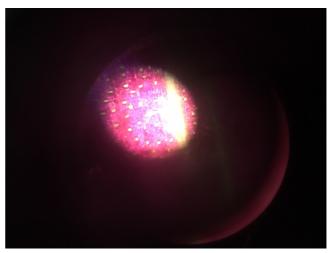


SCIENCE CLUB BUZZING!

Mr Fisher - Senior Assistant Headteacher

Science club was buzzing again on Monday lunchtime when Miss Morrin had the eager young scientists taking photos of leaves under the microscope. Year 12 scientists decided to join in and help after they had completed their own 'required practical' task that day.





Science club is a fun way of learning some extra science. In the picture we see what the students were studying. Under the microscope the stomata were clearly showing as dots of light shining through from the light source underneath. Stomata are the tiny pores on leaves used for gas exchange: carbon dioxide in and oxygen out as part of photosynthesis, and water vapour out as the plant transpires.

Come along to the science block every Monday lunchtime. All welcome.

THEME OF THE WEEK – ACHIEVEMENT

Mr Fisher – Senior Assistant Headteacher

This week's theme of the week was Saavutus (or as they say in Finland, Achievement).

The theme looked at how a sense of achievement, that comes from doing a thing well, makes the effort required to work hard at that thing seem easy and even fun.

An ignition spark starts a fire which, once started, continues to burn brightly and effortlessly on its own. So too, the effort required to do well changes from being arduous hard work into even a pleasure once a sense of achievement has kicked in.

During the week's themed assembly Megan, from Year 12, showcased her breath-taking dance skills; skills that she spends a couple of hours per day to develop, but a couple of hours that she looks forward to and enjoys.





BMS STUDENTS THINK OF THOSE LESS FORTUNATE IN THE RUN UP TO CHRISTMAS

Miss Budd - Head of Willow House



This year we decided to collect shoeboxes for 'Link to Hope,' a charity that supports people living in extreme poverty in Romania, Bulgaria, Ukraine and Moldova.

Life for people in these countries can be extremely difficult, with many families living without clean running water and electricity, and

struggling to feed themselves. The winter months are particularly hard, as temperatures drop well below freezing. Link to Hope aims to bring hope to people who are living in these awful conditions, through a gift of a shoebox filled with presents. Many of the boxes go to orphanages, refugee camps, centres for adults and children with special needs, as well as to homes across Eastern Europe.



By distributing these boxes, Link to Hope make important connections with people and build trust, as well as delivering aid. This then enables them to run education centres, soup kitchens and other projects. They believe that education is vitally important to help people to work their way out of poverty and give them new opportunities.



SIXTH FORMERS COUNTING UP THE BOXES

Students were asked to put together shoeboxes for either a family or elderly person. Each box should be filled with a range of useful items in such as tools, gloves, scissors, soap and toothbrushes as well as some Christmas treats like sweets, chocolate and games. Our deadline for all boxes to be brought into school was Friday 10th November. After a slow start, suddenly the staff corridor was full with brightly coloured packages. The piles just seemed to grow and grow over the day as more and more boxes were brought down and piled up.





SORTING AND REPACKING

However the work didn't stop there- Since our collection deadline sixth formers have been helping to sort, repack and wrap incomplete boxes ready to be collected and shipped to Eastern Europe. Students showed a huge about of generosity, and following our sorting and repacking we have a grand total of **163** boxes!

Once the boxes were all finally wrapped and labelled, the charity came to collect them. Helpful year 10s assisted with carrying the boxes to the van, and finally they went off to the distribution centre, ready to complete the next part of their journey.

It is lovely to think of all of the people that these boxes will help, and the excitement that will come with opening these special presents.

A big thank you to all the students and staff who were involved



...OFF THEY GO!

STEM CLUB UPDATE

Mr Chalkley - Head of Technology



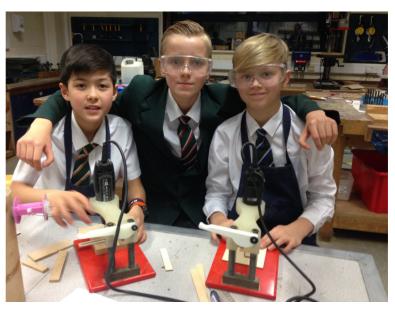


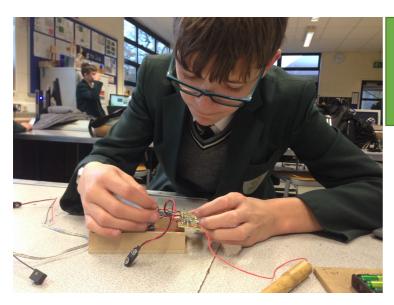
F1 in Schools: The team "name to be decided", have been developing logos and their car using 3D design software. They will also be producing a portfolio to help explain the technical and aesthetic features of the design.

With the competition deadline fast approaching, the team need to get their skates on!

Hacking STEM: New members of the STEM club have started work on making a mini wind turbine to generate power and test the effectiveness of different shaped turbine blades.

The aim is to produce enough power to turn a light on. I look forward to seeing these 'bright' students develop their engineering skills this year





Circuit construction: Alex in Year 9 and Lewis in Year 7 have been learning to design and make their own circuits. They have discovered it takes a lot of patience and brain power to make them work.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM AT FULL GOVERNORS MEETING

Mr Turner – Executive Principal

It was great to see our senior student leaders present so eloquently at this week's Full Governing Body meeting held on Thursday between 6.30 and 8.30 pm. They explained to the Governors how Student Voice now has a much higher profile in the school with half termly meetings taking place in the Main Hall and students across all year groups in the school working collaboratively to discuss and plan improvements to their school community.



They also provided an update to Governors about the new overall structure to the Student Parliament and how student leadership positions are now more streamlined across both the student body and the embedded House system at the school.



Our senior student leaders do make a major contribution to the life of the school and we want to thank them for everything they do and for being the role models they are to all the students in the school. As always the Governors were very impressed with their presentation at the meeting and really took on board many of the ideas they presented.

SYCAMORE HOUSE ASSEMBLY

Mr Turner - Executive Principal

Last week's Sycamore House Assembly led by our inspirational Head of House Mr Lyley certainly had a different twist to it. Students stood at the start of the assembly and, after a brief introduction to the Theme of the Week 'Participation', worked in mixed age groups to complete a practical task.





The key messages the assembly focussed on included being prepared to take yourself out of your comfort zone, trying something different in order to achieve your true potential, being prepared to work with others to achieve a common goal and learning from each other.



It was great to see all the students in our House working together in all age groups – prepared to have a go and support each other to achieve a goal.

INSPIRATIONAL ASSEMBLIES

Mr Turner – Executive Principal

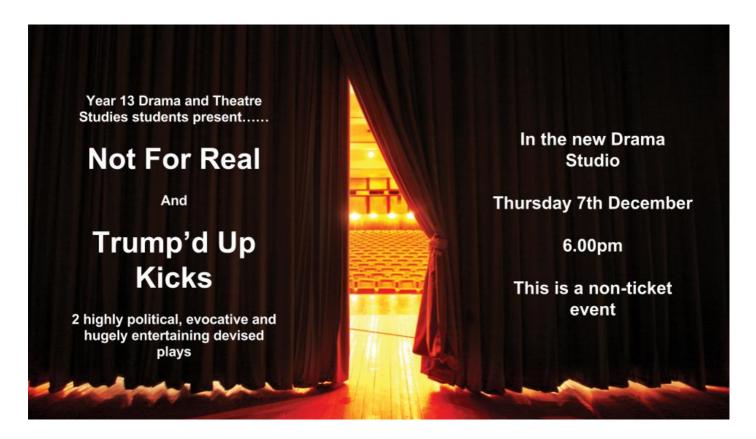
All this week Senior Assistant Headteacher Mr Fisher has led the Main School Assemblies on the Theme of the Week 'Achievement' providing a very poignant and personal example of how he learned a challenging foreign language by devoting time and effort to his goal, persevering over time, taking lots of small manageable steps and making the learning fun, relevant and enjoyable; demonstrating a great growth mindset!





His assembly was perfectly illustrated by one of our superb Sixth Form dancers Megan who performed a stunning dance routine that really showed what is possible when you get your attitude to learning right and couple that with hard work and dedication.

It inspired us all to continue to Aspire to Achieve.



PROUD MOMENT FOR BUSHEY MEADS AT WEST SIDE STORY PERFORMANCE

Mr Malik - Pastoral Support and Communications Manager

The Alban Arena hosted the St Albans Musical Theatre Company's performance of West Side Story back in November and Miss Miller and I were lucky enough to attend the show. Our main motivation for attending was to support one of our students, Ben – 11 Ash and also our colleague Mr Cox who were both performing!





The show was incredibly professional with some stunning performances. Mr Cox who played Riff the leader of the Jets, gave an outstanding performance showcasing his talents and captivating the audience. A inspiration to true students and leading by example by challenging himself and continuing to develop his own professional skills.

It was a revelation seeing Ben on stage as part of the Jets, he displayed a fantastic range of abilities through dancing the stunning choreography, which was a mix of genres. He displayed his versatility as a performer through contemporary, jazz, Latin American and modern dance.





Ben has shown commitment to the show during a very busy time at school, managing his time and really aspiring to follow his dream to be a professional performer. This experience has given him the opportunity to work alongside dancers and actors who work professionally in the field.





It was an extremely proud moment for Bushey Meads and I would like to commend both Ben and Mr Cox on an exceptional achievement.

MATHS IN ACTION

Mr Donovan - Head of KS5 Maths

Last week, sixteen Year 12 students recently attended the Maths In Action Lectures at the Emmanuel Centre in London. We watched and participated in six presentations by prominent speakers, each providing an interesting perspective on Mathematics, some delving into the philosophical and some looking at real-life applications. The lectures were inspiring, uplifting and thought-provoking. One lecturer (an expert on guitar string wave functions) even played his electric guitar along with some interesting lyrics!

Some of the students offered their views on the event:

"The lectures were a great insight into university teaching, and gave us an early opportunity to adjust to a new style of learning." Amie

"I found the trip very useful and inspiring as it showed another side of Mathematics that I hadn't really considered before. I particularly enjoyed the talk about statistics in the news as it was very relevant and interesting." Emma

"I thoroughly enjoyed listening to the different speakers and their different interpretations of maths. The talks have opened my eyes to the endless different possibilities maths can provide and has helped me to realise that the maths we study at school is just a tiny fraction of the subject as a whole!" Jake

"It was very interesting to hear about both the past and future of maths from a range of inspiring and enthusiastic speakers. I especially enjoyed hearing the story of Fermat's Last Theorem and the reliability of statistical news headlines. It reminded me of how maths is such a big part of our world and that it genuinely can be fun!" Vinija



I am sure it will be something both students and teachers will remember for a long time and will inspire them to continue exploring Maths in all its forms.

Four year 13 students - Abigail, Karan, Harry and Kajal recently also represented Bushey Meads in the Senior Team Maths Challenge. They equipped themselves very well in the event, doing themselves and the school proud.

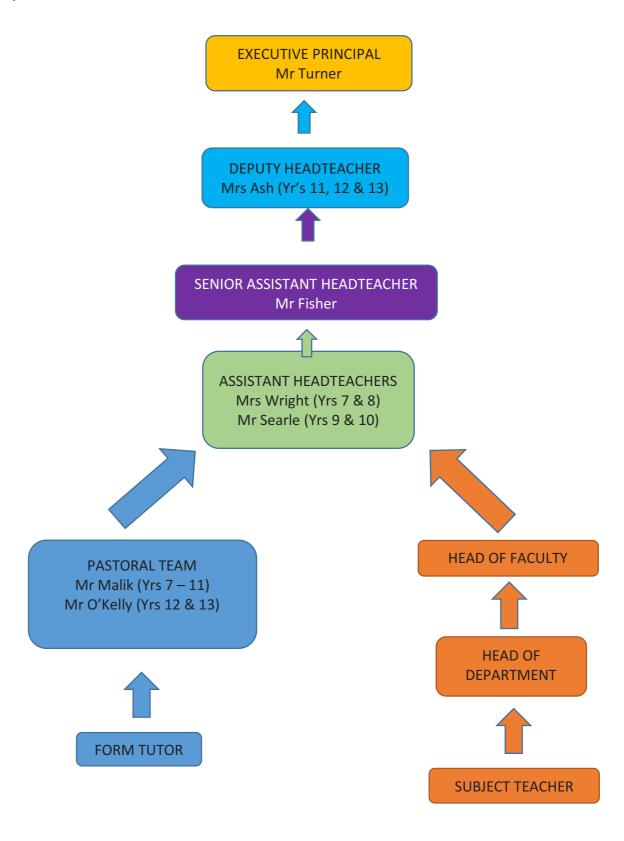
We look forward to doing more events like this, with a Key Stage 4 Maths in Action Trip planned for February. We are sure our Year 12 Students will encourage these students to attend!

CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION

Mrs Ash - Deputy Headteacher

In a large school it is important to know who to contact if you would like to raise a concern or provide us with information. If you have a concern you would like to share with the school regarding your son or daughter your first point of contact needs to be the subject teacher or the form tutor.

They can be contacted via the school email: <u>reception@busheymeads.org.uk</u>, marking it for their attention, or by telephone: 020 8950 3000.



MONDAY MAGIC MOMENT AT BMS

Mr Turner - Executive Principal

Mr Cox led an excellent Monday Magic Moment at the start of this week, showcasing a powerful online resource named 'Seesaw'. Seesaw is an online programme that empowers students to independently document their learning with built-in creative tools, and provides an authentic audience for their work.



Having trialed it over the last few months, Mr Cox demonstrated how he is using it powerfully to engage all his students in uploading their work, teaching videos, photos and musical melodies and how then he is then able to provide detailed, targeted and excellent feedback to enable all the students to improve their work.

Through the online platform the students and teacher can also easily share common mistakes with the whole class and see their progress over time. A powerful and inspiring way to start another week at BMS.



St Margaret's

SPORTS CENTRE

Netball

Here at St Margaret's Sports Centre, our ultimate aim is for children to enjoy their Netball. We create a positive and encouraging environment for the children to develop at their own pace whilst making new friends.

Our Netball Club and holiday courses cover the fundamental skills of Netball alongside an understanding of the Netball rules. Whether your child attends our club, or our holiday courses, our fully qualified, England Netball affiliated coaches will work hard to ensure that your child develops their netball skills and knowledge, ensuring enjoyment is key

Our Netball Club runs in term time on Tuesday evenings:

Year 4, 5 & 6 runs from 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Year 7,8, & 9 runs from 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Cost for each session is £4. For more information or to book, please contact Heather on h.turner@stmargarets.herts.sch.uk

Our next holiday camp will run in Easter 2018.

PE AND HEALTH FACULTY NEWS 2017-18

Mr Cartledge - Head of PE and Health

FOOTBALL

Year 11 Boys Football v Parmiters (District League)

Date: Mon 27th November

Result: Lost 4-2

Scorers: Finlay Horastead, Ben Faulkner

Squad: James Dodwell, Aidan Angold, Conner Atkinson, Ethan Fiordelisi, Joe Manning, Thanujan Tharmalasingam, Finlay

Horastead, Joel Smith, Josh Williams, Italiia David-McLeod, Ben Faulkner

Commended performances: Joe Manning

Comment: In the boys final match of the season the boys again had to field a weakened team due to injury. However the boys put in a battling display with a poor 10 minute spell in the 1st half proving decisive. Well done to the boys who with a small squad have been a very competitive team over the last 5 years winning the District Div 1 in Year 9 and holding their own in the Premier league in years 10 and 11.

Year 10 Boys Football v Rickmansworth (District League)

Date: Mon 27th November

Result: Lost 3-2

Scorers: Keiran Barnard-White

Squad: Zachary Faulkner, Kai Jackman, Nathan Angold, Luke Fletcher Gray, Mohamed Djahnit, Ross Marsh, Owen O'Mahony, Jake

Watt, Josh Jones, Jamie Alexander, Pavit Sangashina, Billy Garvey, Keiran Barnard White

Commended performances: Keiran Barnard-White and Owen O'Mahony

Comment: After a poor first half performance the team was 3 nil down. A stern talk at half time meant the boys went out with a point to prove. They create lots of goal scoring opportunities in the game with Owen O'Mahony breaking up play in the middle and Keiran Barnard-White being a constant threat in the forward position. In the end the boys deserved to win but missed some big chances including a penalty and a few one vs. ones.

RUGBY

Under 18 Boys Rugby v Beaumont (A) (County Trophy)

Date: Wednesday 29th November

Result: Lost 34 - 5

Squad: Kieran Woodhouse, Chris King, Jack Leyshon, Curtis Meale, Joel Feeley (Y11), Andrew Fordham, Haroon Ali Shan, Humza Hussain, Kyran Feasey, Sam Basnett, Euan Enright, Chris Osei, Nirthurshan Sellathurai, Kalpa Muthuhmarana, Andrew Powell, Curtis Woodham ©, Cameron Hanton.

Comment: A first game of senior rugby at Bushey Meads for at least 20 years and against a very tough opponent was always going to be a difficult assignment. However, a fantastic display of defensive rugby with tough tackling and a never wavering effort allowed the boys to stay competitive throughout the 80 minutes. A few bumps and bruises were collected by the squad as well as the respect of the opposition. A very enjoyable experience for the boys. Now they move into the county shield tournament later this year.

Year 9 Boys Rugby v Reach free (A) (County Shield)

Date: Thursday 29th November

Result: Won 29 - 17

Squad: Archie Sykes, Charlie Mainwaring ©, Shayam Pattni, Aaron Doody, Tom Phillips, Leo Enright, Jesse Harry-Brown, Jalen Sotomey, Jake Norris-Ataie, Taylor Bees, Luke Andrews, George Rowe

Comment: A really enjoyable game that was close until the final try scored and converted at the final whistle. A dominant display of running with the ball from Bushey Meads and organised and solid rucking allowed the boys to maintain good field position throughout the game.

Year 7 Boys Rugby v WATFORD DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT TOURNAMENT

Date: Tuesday 28th November

Result: Won 4, Drawn 1 and Lost 1.

Squad: Finnley Spencer, Astor Zaghis, Max Booth, Dylan Angold, Gonzalo Gonzalez-Aller, Myles Brown, Zak Tavener, Rafael Kassapian, Jaden Johnson, Dominic Richards, Reece Simpson, Harry Brown, Aiden O'Shea, Alex Seridarian, Ronan Harris, Kaylan

Comment: The boys got off to an excellent start with 3 straight wins early in the competition. As the tournament progressed, thier confidence had grown. The last two games were much more difficult as our players began to fatigue and pick up some injuries. Overall, our boys were excellent and finished with an impressive result.

FORMER STUDENT IN X FACTOR FINALS

Last weekend former Bushey Meads student Ashley Fongho and his group RakSu took part in ITV's X Factor finals and won! Ashley was a student at the school from 2003 - 2008.

Ashley was a key part of one of the most successful sports teams in BMS history. In the summer of 2005 the Junior Boys Athletics team won the Hertfordshire County League and Championship Final with a record number of points beating 52 other schools in Hertfordshire to the prize.



Some pictures of the winning team can be seen. Ashley won the triple jump competition in every league match and the championship Final. He was also a County footballer and was Captain a very successful BMS football team in his year group winning a number of district competitions. Ashley's drive and determination was evident when he was at school and has now translated in success in his adult life. The clear message here is to always try your best no matter what and dream big!









HOUSE NETBALL

This week saw the completion of the inter house netball competitions, where all girls in Year 7-10 took part during their curriculum PE lessons.

The matches were competitive and played in great spirit, all students who took part earned points for their house as well as individual reward points.

Massive thanks to the sixth form students who gave up their time to come out and help officiate.

Congratulations to ASH house for being the overall netball house champions 2017.



The Results

Overall positions

House	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Total points	Overall
Ash	6th=	1st=	1st=	1st	33	1st
Beech	1st	4th	6th	1st	28	2nd
Elm	6th=	1st=	3rd	4th	23	4th
Oak	3rd=	3rd	1st=	6th	25	3rd
Maple	3rd=	6th=	1st=	7th	21	5th
Sycamore	3rd=	6th=	4th	3rd	20	6th
Willow	2nd	5th	7th	4th	18	7th









BADMINTON V ST. MARGARETS

On Tuesday 28th November students from the GCSE classes in year 10 and 11 had the opportunity to play some competitive badminton against local girls school St.Margarets this week. With many students choosing to use badminton as one of their assessed practical areas, competitive matches allow the skills developed in lesson to progress and for staff to undertake moderation between schools.

The girls demonstrated a good range of skills and honed their officiating skills in both singles and doubles matches. Although competitive the matches were played in good spirit and for many the first opportunity to play against students from other schools.

The final result was a 237-211 victory to St.Margarets

Competing students:

Year 11: Sophie Melsome, Colette Picksley, Arabella Parker, Georgia Sargent,

Year 10: Vanshita Mishra, Angela Qarib, Dinujha Sivakumar, Lakshaa Srishanka, Kushali Pabari, Nathra Sriharan, Ayesha Sindhi, La'Raib Khan

BOCCIA NEWS

Big congratulations go to Grace Bonner, Ben Heels, Kai Shah and Ross Machen who have all been awarded their Boccia young leaders Silver award by Boccia England.

Having achieved their bronze awards in the last academic year the students under the expert guidance of support staff Mrs Hedges and Mrs Andrews have worked hard coaching and assisting students in the younger years to develop their Boccia skills.

This is a fantastic achievement by the students and they are looking to continue their success working towards their gold award.



SPORTS CLUBS PROVIDED BY EXTERNAL COACHES

Athletics Coaching - Running club
Every Tuesday with Watford Harriers in the gym.
ALL Welcome

Arsenal Ladies continue their coaching with Bushey Meads students every Wednesday from 3.15 - 4.15 on the field.

ALL girls Welcome.

Herts Warriors Basketball begins Friday 29th September ALL welcome meet in the school hall suitably attired. Finish 4.20.

For full details of the clubs, fixtures and practices students and parents need to check on the **Bushey Meads School website** in the PE and Health Faculty icon where you will find a full list of the extra-curricular activities. This is updated on a weekly basis to show the fixtures and practices for each week. In addition students can check the **notice boards in the boys and girls changing rooms**. The PE and Health Faculty also have their own **Twitter** account **@BMSPEandHealth** which includes regular updates on fixtures, match reports and details of forthcoming events.

For any parental enquiries about any aspects of PE contact the Head of PE and Health Faculty Ashley Cartledge cartledgea@busheymeads.org.uk For any specific issues related to Girls PE and girls fixtures contact Sarah Cooper coopers@busheymeads.org.uk.

ARSENAL LADIES TICKETS

As part of our ongoing link with Arsenal ladies we have been allocated 100 tickets for students and staff to use over the course of the season to watch Arsenal Ladies play their home matches at Borehamwood. If any students and their families would like to access tickets for any of the matches (see dates below) they will need to contact Mrs.Cooper in PE (coopers@busheymeads.org.uk) at least a week in advance to arrange ticket collection.

Email Mrs Cooper a week in advance if you would like free tickets to watch Arsenal ladies play:

coopers@busheymeads.org.uk





HIRING NOW

ARE YOU AN ASPIRING JOURNALIST?

Would you like the opportunity to:

- ✓ Be the student voice of Bushey Meads School?
- ✓ Work with other aspiring journalists?
- ✓ Use your literacy and computing skills?

We have the perfect opportunity for you!

We are looking for independent, enthusiastic and resourceful students in Year 10 or 12 to be part of a team of budding journalists for our newsletter.

If you are interested, please send a letter to Mr Malik expressing your interest and why you would suit the role by **Monday 18th December** to malikk@busheymeads.org.uk