



Friday 31 January 2020

## Message from the Acting Head

This term has seemed to have lasted a lot longer than four weeks! There is always so much to try to fit into the shortest term of the year: mock exams, school recruitment fairs, entrance and scholarship days, fixtures galore, retreats, charity weeks, outside speakers and the final run-in for rehearsals for High School Musical. Some of the ongoing and planned initiatives and future developments for the next two terms include: International Studies Course Project; New Sixth Form Open Evening targeting external students from the wider region; In service staff training feedback, action planning and delegation of staff working groups; New Performance Management system with evaluation linked to CPD (Continuous Professional Development) needs: Potential new Parent Communications app to include multi-functional elements: Parent and pupil surveys : Revised website design: Theme taster days for Prep stage year groups from other Prep and Primary Schools: Local Nursery visits to market our Pre-Prep and Prep School: New DT teaching and learning space in the old Nursery Block: Refurbished and enhanced Library space.

One of the other ongoing targets for the school is to get as many people through our gates to see the buildings, grounds, aura and warm welcome that the school can offer to prospective parents and visitors. Recently, we were able to work with Tunbridge Wells Rugby Club who used our facilities. Many of these parents were impressed and surprised by our setting and facilities so close to the town. We are also getting several enquiries and visits weekly from parents (both for Prep and Senior) whose children currently attend schools that were not traditionally source or feeder schools for Beechwood. I would like to think that the significant 'push' in getting the school name out into the local and regional community in recent months is starting to bear fruit. I would also be grateful if parents/guardians could continue their advocacy of the school in social and workplace situations whenever possible.

Have a great weekend!  
Paul Kershaw

### Elevate Workshop

On Thursday Elevate came in to school to present a study skills seminar to Year 10 & 11. The students feedback was exceptionally positive, and they gained an understanding of time and stress management in the lead up to examinations. This followed a very successful first session before the Year 11 Mock examinations.

### Flute and Fife Demonstrations

On Tuesday Year 3 had an exciting demonstration from Ms Lucy McIntyre, showcasing the Flute and the Fife. They were treated to a mini concert of a variety of repertoire, including Jazz, Classical and a famous hornpipe. All the students had a chance to try the Fife and learned how to make a sound on this versatile instrument which was fun and enjoyable for everyone. Ms McIntyre offers individual and group lessons for all years. If your child is interested please email Miss Molloy at [k.molloy@beechwood.org.uk](mailto:k.molloy@beechwood.org.uk)

## PARENTMAIL

Junior Division - Journal  
Prep School - Mr Coakley Weekly Letter  
Senior School - High School Musical Rehearsal  
Year 11 - Parents' Consultation Evening  
Year 5 - PGL  
Year 7 & 8 - Trip to France  
Year 10 & 11 - Elevate Session  
Year 6 - Bikeability  
Year 4 - Mrs Ripoché Cover Arrangements  
Whole School - Music Diary  
Junior Division - Journal

# News

## Year 10 Retreat

On Tuesday the whole of Year 10 travelled to Aylesford Priory, to take part in their Day Retreat. Focusing on this year's Sacred Heart Goal of Social Awareness which Impels to Action, our pupils explored what it means to live in a global society and the responsibility we have to protect it. They were first given items to use to create a shelter. One group was given a cardboard box, another some wool, a third was given one thin black sack and the last group had sellotape. Whilst the group with wool struggled with the challenge, the cardboard group simply put the box over one person, and the group with plastic bag opened it out fully to partly protect four people. Only the group with the sellotape thought about combining the items to make a better shelter. The pupils then explored some world statistics and the inequalities these evidenced. Statistics included the fact that 5.4 million children around the world will die before their 5th birthday, that 785 million do not have access to safe drinking water (more than 10%), and that 70.8 million people are refugees (more than the population of Britain). They then looked at some of the ways CAFOD is working around the world to combat these issues. Pupils spent the rest of the day exploring people who inspire them, and who their role models are. Some chose famous people, while others chose family or family friends as their inspirations. The whole day was very enjoyable for everyone.



## PTA

There is a meeting on Thursday 6 February at 8.30am in the Parlour to discuss the Christmas Fair. If anyone is interested in helping or has any good ideas please come along, we will be very pleased to see you.

## Job Vacancy

We are looking to appoint a Facilities Supervisor. If you know anyone who may be interested please ask them to contact Liz Milner email [bsh@beechwood.org.uk](mailto:bsh@beechwood.org.uk)

## WEEK 5

SUN 2	
MON 3	4.00 High School Musical Rehearsal
TUES 4	2.30 U15 Hockey v Battle Abbey (A) 2.30 U11 Rugby v Radnor House (A) 4.00 High School Musical Rehearsal
WED 5	9.00 Peru Trip briefing day 2.30 U13 Rugby v Skippers (A) 2.30 U11 Rugby v Radnor House (A) 2.30 U10/11 Netball v Radnor House H
THUR 6	2.30 U8/U9 Tag Rugby v Somerhill (A) 2.30 U8/U9 Netball v Radnor House H 4.00 U18 Netball v Battle Abbey (H) 5.00 Year 11 Parents' Consultation Evening
FRI 7	10.45 Year 3 Charity Cake Sale
SAT 8	

# Sport News

## Netball

On Tuesday our U18 team faced Kent College. The game started and goals were scored at both ends in quick succession. Going into half-time we were only down by three goals and were still very much in the game. However in the second half it went Kent College's way with a couple of turnovers and great shooting by their Goal Attack. We fought back and Grace, Imogen and Hope kept goals coming. Sadly we were not able to make up the deficit but it was a close fought game. Well done to all the girls, especially Grace, Izzy and Jess who stepped up from U15 to play with the U18 team.

Unfortunately, the score 0-10 doesn't represent how well our Beechwood U8/9 girls played in their match against Skippers Hill. Brianna and Scarlett were a fantastic double act who whizzed around the court passing and moving. Their interceptions and drives into space to win the ball were very impressive. Leonoor and Amber were kept extremely busy in defence, putting Skippers Hill under pressure each time they tried to score. Molly made valuable contributions to play by ensuring the ball was passed up the court into the centre third. Sadly, our shooters Jacinda and Noe only had a few opportunities to shoot as Skippers Hill were very quick to regain possession whenever we got the ball into our attacking third. A great effort by all the girls and well done to Brianna for being chosen as Player of the Match.

On Thursday Skippers Hill U10's visited our MUGA for a netball match. We started slowly as did Skippers Hill and it took a little while for both teams to find their groove. With some hard work and determination Beechwood showed some excellent passing and intercepting, and the girls grew in the game. Passes were quick and sharp and the speed of the ball down the court was exceptional. Beechwood took the lead and never looked back. The final score ended 4 -1 with Alessia scoring a hat trick. Well played to all involved.

## Rugby

On Wednesday afternoon, Beechwood U13's travelled to Radnor House for a rugby match. We started extremely strongly and demonstrated excellent attacking play throughout the duration of the first half. As a result we entered the break with a convincing lead. After changes at half time the second half was a lot tighter, with both teams finding gaps in the oppositions defence and scoring tries. We continued to show excellent, dynamic running to create opportunities to score, and really improved our passing and offloading to turn these opportunities into tries. Our dominant first half set us up for a convincing victory. Well done boys.

On Thursday, our U9's faced Vinehall in a two-part tag rugby match in extremely muddy conditions. Against Vinehall's first team, we settled fast and raced into a 4 tries to 1 lead after the first couple of minutes. The boys demonstrated excellent running and attacking play to break the defensive line of the opposition and score. Vinehall fought back and the end of this first period became tight and tense. We ran out 7-5 victors in this first game. The second game was a fast paced and tight affair with both teams scoring frequently. Entering the final few seconds we had a 7-6 lead, but Vinehall managed to move the ball well and score to level the game and draw the second game 7-7. A fantastic afternoon of rugby and one that in which both teams demonstrated excellent rugby ability. Well done boys!

## ADVERTS



### Butler Wood Fuels

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Thursday 6 February**  
Year 11 Parents' Consultation Evening  
**Thursday 13 February**  
Sixth Form Open Evening  
**Friday 14 February**  
Classes End for Half Term