



## Message from the Principal—Mr Barker

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Dear Parents

### Mobile Phones—Reminder

Mobile phones have been the subject of debate at school for years – we value them as safety devices for your children to contact you, especially in emergencies. However, expensive phones are a threat and nuisance too – students have had their phones stolen, some camera features have been misused and students are distracted by their phones during lessons.

We already ask that phones are kept switched off and out of sight during the school day. The rule will be that only mobile phones with basic telephone and text features can be brought to school. Such phones are incredibly cheap and there are several pay as you go models of this sort in the high street stores that generally cost around £5. Such models will be of minimal interest to thieves. If your child has an expensive I-phone or similar model they should leave it at home.

To support these rules we will be confiscating a phone if it is seen in school and it can be collected by parents after a period of 24 hours, but if an unauthorised model is confiscated it will be retained for two weeks. We will accept no responsibility for the security of the more expensive phones and the PE department will not accept phones which are of an expensive model to look after during lessons.

### Uniform—Reminder

Thank you again for your cooperation from the beginning of term in ensuring that students look their best. Staff, students and members of the local community continue to comment on the improvement in the look, and as a result the behaviour, of the young people who attend Bishopsford.

I would like to remind parents that any student who fails to arrive in full school uniform will be required to sit a two hour SLT detention after school until 5:10. If you are unsure of the uniform regulation please contact the school or check the school's web site. If you have genuine financial difficulties please contact your son/daughter's Head of Community and the school will endeavour to help support you where possible.

### Internal Exclusion process—reminder

When young people are behaving inappropriately in lessons we attempt to resolve this and support the students in their reintegration into their lessons. On the few occasions where this is not possible students can be removed and placed in internal exclusion for the remainder of that day. From Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November any students placed into internal exclusion will be required to sit a two hour SLT detention that evening; we will contact you by phone to get your permission, and if it is not possible we will postpone this to the following day.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those parents who continue to support Bishopsford Arts College in helping us to enforce the school's rules and regulations, ensuring that the highest standards are met at all times. I must also thank all students who continue to come to school wearing full and correct uniform, with the correct equipment and behaving in the way that we expect here at Bishopsford.

**Andrew Barker**  
**Principal**

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## A little RESPECT goes a long way...

A bright, sunny morning in the first week of September saw the start of a new term, a new school year and the dawn of a new era at Bishopsford Arts College.

For the first time a new cohort of Year 7s were joined in their tutor groups by students from all the other year groups. Vertical tutoring is now firmly established and many of the aims of the system are working out very well: the start of the school day is a much calmer time for all concerned; the older students demonstrate their maturity and provide a role model for the younger ones and tutors have more time to deal with issues as they arise.

Respect Community has made a particularly brilliant start. The first round of points scored in The Communities Cup showed Respect well ahead of their rivals, with the two top points scoring tutor groups in the entire school (well done R3 and R4) and Respect coming first overall for the first half-term. Of course, that is just round one and Respect students will need to keep up the great work right to the end of the year if they want to win the first ever Communities Cup competition.

I am sure that the students in Respect will do just that if they remember what the name of their community means. That is:

*Respect: to have a due regard for the feelings, wishes, or rights of others; to avoid harming or interfering with others or with things and to feel admiration for someone or something because of their abilities, qualities or achievements.*

As I said at the start, a little respect goes a long way...

## The CHALLENGE is on ...

The Challenge Community are proud to be named after the first letter of our school motto ... CARE.

Our Community Leader, Mr Prichard has set us the continuing 'challenge' of striving our best to be 'first' in good attendance, good punctuality, smart uniform and a Community that promotes our ethos' both in school and on the way to and from school. He has organised a weekly quiz, run by Ms Valenti, where the winning group receive a prize; weekly diary writing; a weekly Maths game and weekly reading time. He drives us on all the time to be winners in earning commendation points.

C Community has a blend of experienced and enthusiastic young Tutors, all of whom are committed to the new vertical tutoring system. Here's what tutors and pupils have to say.

C1 Tutor, Mr Wilson. *'As an experienced teacher at Bishopsford, I am really enjoying my new tutor class. The students, from Yr7 to Yr11, have rapidly settled into their new groupings, and the support and mentoring that each offers the other has grown quickly and naturally.'*

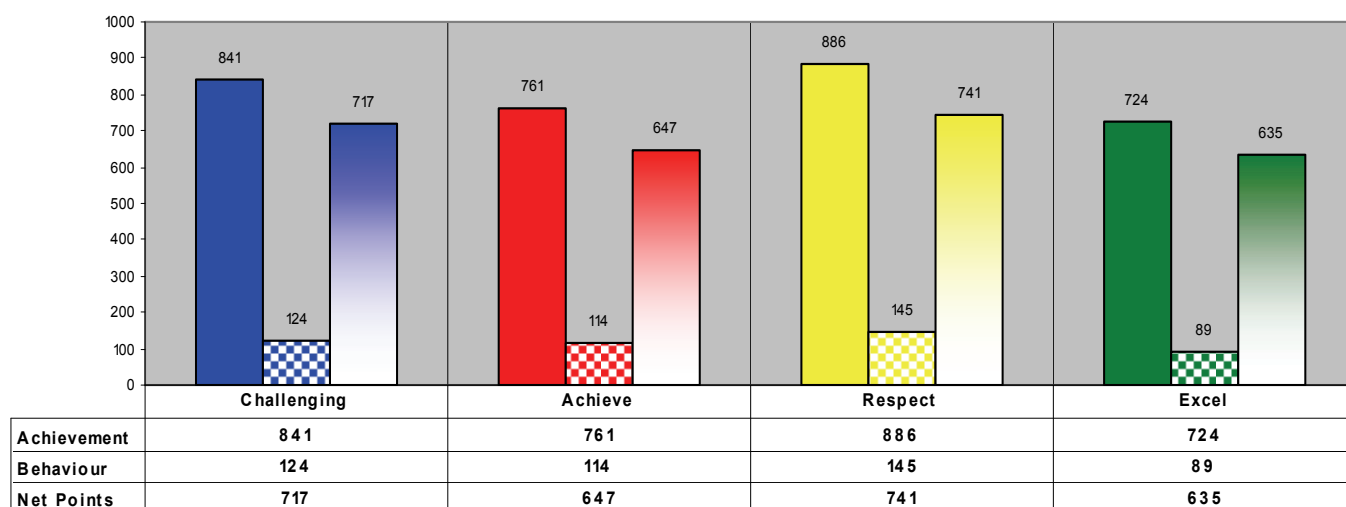
C6 Tutor, Ms Byrne. *'As a newly qualified PE teacher, beginning my career at Bishopsford has been an exciting and rewarding experience. I come from Ireland and since I have joined the Bishopsford community I have had great support. Being part of the C Community is exciting. The competition between communities is healthy and encourages me, and the pupils, to continue to strive for our best every day.'*

C8 Yr9 Student, Hamza Khan. *'Older students from other year groups have been really helpful to me. I can now talk to them in the playground and they give me advice. My Tutor, Mr McShane, is always available to talk to me at lunchtime to sort out any of my problems. Mr Prichard is a really good Head of Community because he knows how to talk to children, he hasn't forgotten what it was like to be at school himself.'*

C1 Yr11 Prefect, Jadean Southam. *'I enjoy being able to be with students from every year group. I help some of the Yr7 and Yr 8 tutees with reading in the mornings and we all work together as a group to try and do our best for each other.'*

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT AND BEHAVIOUR 23RD SEPTEMBER - 22ND OCTOBER 2010



COMMUNITY



### My experience at Bishopsford Sixth Form by Ross Wilmott.

Joining Bishopsford Sixth Form was the best choice for me as I am a learner who needs to be shown what to do rather than just told what to do, therefore by joining Bishopsford I knew I would get the best support that would be available to me. Also because I already have an existing relationship with all my teachers and they know how best to teach not just me but everyone else who attends the 6th form.



We all settled into the sixth form really well and there was a huge amount of support to help us into the routine of the different learning environment, because the jump from GCSEs to A Levels is really big. It has taken a while to get used to the workload but it helps that I have chosen courses that I enjoy.

The sixth form teachers are always listening to what we have to say and are always keen to hear our ideas and opinions, making it possible for us to contribute to the building and making it a better working environment not just for us but for the future generations of students that will attend here.

### PARENTS EVENING DATES

Year 12—6th December 2010

Year 11—24th January 2011

Year 8—7th February 2011

Year 10—28th March 2011

### Careers fair

Year 10 and 11 students were given a kick-start into their further education plans today as Bishopsford Arts College held its annual Careers Fair.

Representatives from all of the local colleges and sixth form centres were present with plenty of information and guidance to assist the students in making the right choices for the next phase of their education.

If there are any parents who have questions regarding their child's future, please feel free to contact Miss Valenti/Mrs Dillon at the school.

**Miss Valenti Lead Learning Mentor**

### Uniform Supplier

**School Uniform Direct**

**89 Mitcham Road, Tooting, SW17 9PD**

# Specialist Arts

## Merton Celebrating Success Event – 18<sup>th</sup> November at Wimbledon College

Two Scholarship Students, Sarah Bakare and Daniel Hummerston performed two songs at this annual event. They were accompanied by Mr Barker on piano. The Head of Education Jan Martin was impressed with the level of performance from our students at this event.

## St. Cecilia's Day Evening Concert – 22<sup>nd</sup> November

St Cecilia is the Patron Saint of Music and this is a concert to showcase the musical talent of children at Merton Secondary Schools. The concert is being organised by Merton Music Foundation in collaboration with St. Mark's Academy, and with support from Wimbledon Music Festival. Twelve scholarship students from Bishopsford will be involved in this event.



## Arts Day – 25<sup>th</sup> November

Five primary schools will be involved in the Arts Day, ten gifted and talented pupils from each school will spend an hour concentrating on each art form, with a production in the afternoon to which parents are invited.

## Dance Xtra – 15<sup>th</sup> December at 7 pm

Dance Xtra is a dance show featuring acts from all year groups and dance genres, there will also be performances from our gifted and talented group. Two primary schools will also be involved, Liberty and Haselmere.

Ticket prices are Adults £5, Children £2.50 and will be on sale week beginning 6th December.

## Joint Art Project with Liberty and Creative and Media Diploma Students (6<sup>th</sup> Formers)

The Creative and Media Diploma students will be working on a project with Liberty to improve their nursery area. This will be part of the students' work for their commission unit.

## Primary Schools Partnership

We continue to enjoy working with students and staff from local Primary Schools. We have many projects planned for 2010/2011:



- Music technology - to provide opportunities for studio recording sessions.
- Dance Workshops - to plan a programme that builds on and develops the extended opportunities
- Art Workshops - to plan a programme that provides opportunities to work with clay and develop 3D work.
- To support gifted and talented students in the Arts at KS2.
- To provide the Music Scholarship Programme (Liberty Primary School)

We look forward to working with our partnership primary schools:

- Liberty, Malmesbury, Abbotsbury, Haselmere, Benedict, Green Wrythe, Bond, Cranmer, Sherwood and St Teresa's Catholic school.

## Friends of Bishopsford

The Friends of Bishopsford will be holding a meeting for all parents to attend on 9th December, this is an opportunity for parents to become part of the PTA and contribute to the life of the school. Further details will be sent home soon.

*Mr Goodridge, Asst Vice Principal*

# Sporting News

## Leadership Academy

In September the 2nd phase of the Leadership Academy was set up. Fifteen year 8 and year 9 students are currently training to become Bishopsford sports leaders. They have 10 weeks of training and working with local year 1 and year 2 pupils. They will eventually be trained to help assist the running of school sports events and be given a local primary school to conduct some work experience for. It is a great achievement for these pupils and their hard work will be seen around the school and local community. The sports leaders who trained last year are still enjoying their role and are now very reliable and if needed can be called upon to assist in any school sport or community sport events.

Keep up the excellent work you do. The new members of the leadership academy are:

Lola Kareem, Amy Andrews, Paige Smith, Laura Lucas, Ryan Thomas, Ali Mohamed, Jennifer Smith

Anas Shoble, Patty Sabugueiro-Aviles, Jamie Taylor, Katie Littlechild, Kirsty Welch, Kayleigh Wallder

Irinka Bozhikova and Charlie Baker.

**Helen Warren, PE teacher/SSCo Co-ordinator**



## Football Results

Fixture	Result
Year 7 Boys v St Marks	WON 3-2
Year 8 Boys v St Marks	WON 4-1
Year 9 Boys v St Marks	LOST 2-1
Year 10 Boys v St Marks	LOST 3-1
Year 7 Boys v Fullbrook School	LOST 12-2
Year 10 Boys v Glyn	LOST 2-0
Year 11 Boys v Cheam High School	WON 3-0
Year 8/9 Girls v Therfield School	LOST 5-2

## Upcoming Fixtures

FOOTBALL	GIRLS BASKET-BALL
Year 11 Boys v Fullbrook School	Year 7/8 v Ricards Lodge
Year 9 Boys v Wilson's	Year 9/10/11 v Ricards Lodge
Year 10/11 Girls v Sunbury Manor	Year 7/8 v Teddington School

## ATTENDANCE

May I remind parents that pupils should be at school by 8.30am and MUST attend their registration group. Afternoon registration takes place between 3.00-3.10 and ALL PUPILS MUST ATTEND.

Thank you to all pupils who always attend their tutor periods.

REWARDS are soon to be in place for pupils with Excellent Attendance records.

**Mrs Burke, Asst Vice Principal**

## EXAMS

As the first round of GCSE exams has just finished, I thought it a good idea to remind everyone of when each exam session starts. It is surprising the amount of parents and students that think the exams are only run during the summer months of April, May and June. There are in fact 4 GCSE exam sessions throughout the year and they are:

- November, January, March and April through to the end of June.

These sessions are the real GCSE exams and count towards the end result of the full GCSE award. Please avoid taking holidays during these months. The full GCSE information booklet for parents and students is available on our website.

**Mrs Windsor, Exams Officer**

# SUBJECT NEWS

## **English - Controlled Assessment**

I hope that your son/daughter is enjoying the challenges of studying GCSE. I am writing with important information regarding the methods of assessment the English team will now be required to use.

All Year 10 students are currently studying English Today Unit. This has a focus on reading and writing skills in preparation for a Controlled Assessment when they will be required to comment and compare two texts and to craft a response to one of two writing tasks.

The new English GCSE specification has replaced coursework pieces with Controlled Assessments, this means they:

- Have to be completed within a time allocation given by the examining board, in this instance this is four hours
- Will be completed under exam conditions during the student's English lessons
- Can NOT have drafts marked, only the completed assignment
- CAN use pre-prepared notes, no more than two-sides
- Must plan and prepare prior to the Controlled Assessment and that all planning and organising of ideas must come from the students themselves.

Although your son/ daughter's English teacher will have informed them of the importance of thorough preparation, we would like to ask for your support to ensure that all students enter their first controlled assessment with the necessary notes and frame of mind to produce successful pieces of GCSE work during the week beginning 6<sup>th</sup> December 2010. Students who are unavoidably absent during this week, or during a session, may be required to complete the tasks outside normal time-tabled hours at a later date.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further queries or concerns.

*Miss Stevenson Acting Head Of English*

## **Literacy—Creating a Buzz About Spelling**

Bishopsford Arts College has registered to take part in **The Times Spelling Bee Championship 2011**. Very soon we will be looking to recruit a team of eager year 7 spellers to carry our school through the competition.

In the past hundreds of schools have taken part with the aim of making spelling fun and exciting for students. The first round of heats takes place locally in March.

Very soon we will be announcing further information on how students can enter and we will also be running our very own school based Spelling Bee competition.

In the meantime students are encouraged to click the link on the student page of the school website to take them to the Times Spelling Bee website where they can find lots of fun games to help them practise and develop their spelling skills (or the following link can simply be typed in: [www.timesspellingbee.co.uk](http://www.timesspellingbee.co.uk)).

Through the Times Spelling Bee Championship we hope to inspire our students to take pride in their spelling while having fun. I look forward to receiving lots of applications once the competition launches!

*Miss E Knott Literacy Co-coordinator*

## **National Short Story Week**

The UK's first National Short Story Week will take place from Monday 22nd to Sunday 28th November, and here at Bishopsford, we will be ensuring that we fully embrace this. In all lessons throughout the school students will have the opportunity to enjoy and reflect on a series of short stories that will link in with their subjects, ranging from geography to maths and all else in between.

The aim of Short Story Week is to encourage more students to read and listen to short stories, as well as having a go at writing their own. During the week, and beyond, we encourage all students to visit either the school or local library and find short stories that interest them. There will also be a series of short stories posted on the student area of the school website for students to read at their leisure. In addition to this, the school will be running a competition for students to write their own short story.

Please do encourage your children to take part in this in whatever way possible. As they say, there is a short story waiting to be written in all of us!

***Miss E Knott Literacy Co-ordinator***

## **Humanities**

It's been an exciting start to the year in Humanities. Year 7 have made an excellent start and excelled in all four Humanities subjects, History, Geography, Citizenship and RE, in the last of which they have enjoyed expressing themselves by creating their own religious celebration for the mythical Brobinog people; many students invented songs and dances and even brought in Brobinog cakes they had baked themselves for the celebratory learning experience!

In addition to such an excellent start by year 7 other students have made excellent progress in Humanities, in particular Year 10 students have broadened their knowledge of the criminal justice system through a thought provoking visit from local magistrates as part of their GCSE Citizenship studies, and Eco Club continues to deploy its Eco warriors in various ways with the objective of converting Bishopsford Arts college into an environmentally responsible Eco school.

Further events later in the year will continue the enjoyable learning experiences Humanities is proud to offer, including a Key Stage 4 GCSE Citizenship trip to Parliament, a Gifted and Talented RE trip to a local Mosque, a GCSE Geography trip to Brighton and a WW1 focused History residential trip to Belgium.

***Mr Marshall Citizenship Co-ordinator***

## **Design and Technology**

The D&T department are pleased to announce that they will be holding an exhibition and certificate presentation evening in February, to reward students from Y7 - Y11 for their hard work and to showcase the work of the department. Further details will be available after Christmas.

If you have any fashion magazines please donate them to the textiles department, as we can make very good use of them for mood boards/collages.

***Miss Kingston, Subject Leader***



## **Humanities**

### **Remembrance Poem**

#### **Not Alone**

You are not alone  
We are thinking of you at home  
On November night  
When you're in a fight  
As poppies grow  
And we are feeling low  
Our tears will flow  
As you know  
As poppies fall  
We will remember you all  
As in the battle you did fall  
We will remember you all.

***By Ian Wren Year 7,  
Respect Community***

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
27th November 2010	Saturday School
6th December 2010	Year 12 Open Evening 4-6 - Year 11 Mocks begin
14th December 2010	Certificate Evening
15th December 2010	School Christmas Performance
21st December 2010	Last day of term—Mufti Day - (£1 donation to ‘Children in Need’)
5th January 2011	Return to school—Year 12 Mocks begin
10th January 2011	Year 10 Booster vaccinations

### COMMUNICATING WITH PARENTS RE UNEXPECTED SCHOOL CLOSURES

#### London Grid for Learning – Open Check

Parents can Telephone (020) 8408 7508. - enter the schools seven digit DfE code – 315 4061

Web site - <http://map.lgfl.org.uk/opencheck/> - select Merton as the borough and then Bishopsford Arts College from the drop down list

#### School Website

[www.bishopsford.org](http://www.bishopsford.org)

#### Parent call

Text messaging service to parents – please ensure that we have correct telephone numbers in school at all times

**BALFOUR BEATTY**

**LONDON YOUTH GAMES 2011**

**BOYS CRICKET PRACTICE TRIALS**

Tuesday 30 November

Wednesday 8 December

More sessions TBC

4.45pm – 5.45pm



All competitors must be born on or after 1 September 1997. Likely to be in School Year 8 and under.

You must live or go to school in Merton. Parents are responsible for their children at the sessions.

In conjunction with Merton Leisure Development 020 8545 3716

#### **Calling all volunteers.....**

Do you have a few hours spare each week, Home-Start Merton is a local charity that offers support, friendship and practical help to families with young children. We run three **Free** training courses per year January, May and September. We are looking for people who have parenting experience, if you are a parent, grandparent or have worked in this area we would like to hear from you.

Call us now on 0208 646 6044 for a chat

Go on, do something wonderful in 2011!

**Home  
START**  
Support and friendship  
for families