

## *Headteacher*

As I write this the cold shadow of the winter finally seems to be lifting, and the Spring bulbs around the site are beginning to flower. Of course for students in exam years this only brings sharply into focus the prospect of Summer examinations. We are delighted with the way in which Y11 and Y13 are rising to the challenges posed both by the prospect of the examinations themselves and also in those subjects where there are Coursework and Controlled Assignments to be completed. In particular I am grateful to colleagues in all departments who are providing additional targeted interventions to support students as they look to consolidate and extend their knowledge and understanding – from additional ‘one to one’ support sessions before, during or after school – including at break and lunchtimes; workshops and additional lessons as well as holiday sessions. If your daughter or son is invited to attend one of these please encourage them to attend. Your support over

the coming weeks will be crucial – if you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant subject teacher, Head of Department or Head of Year.

The items in this newsletter give a brief snapshot of some of the many and varied other activities students have been involved in. As well as these achievements our Senior Trampoline team placed 3rd in the Southern Regional Championship in Taunton and of course in the week before half term we marveled at the grace, strength and artistry of the students involved in the spectacular Evening of Dance. For students in all years there is much hard work to do between now and Easter, as well as other events to look forward to – culminating in the Charity Fashion Show on March 23rd. They are such inspiring people to have the privilege of working with!

Mr B Greene, Headteacher

## **GCSE's**

The Year 11 team and I would like to congratulate all Year 11 students on the positive and committed way in which they continue to approach their GCSE studies.

The Leadership team enjoyed meeting your daughters at their Year 11 interviews. To assist them in meeting the entry requirements for Bullers Wood Sixth Form, college place or apprenticeship, many subjects are delivering after school revision sessions.

If your daughter is invited to participate in a revision session or in a broader initiative, it is important that she attends. These are all specifically designed to ensure that she has the knowledge and skills to be successful in her summer exams.

Students have sat a second round of Mock exams this week in English, Maths and RS. This has provided them with an additional opportunity to practice their skills, as well as to hone their exam technique especially in the new exam specifications.

We will also be writing to Year 11 students shortly, to outline our Easter Revision offer as well as to provide them with information about the Structured Revision Programme. There are approximately 7 weeks left before the first formal examination and we hope that Year 11 continue to rise to the challenges of the next few weeks.

We are immensely proud of them.

Ms Gouldthorpe





## ***Under 13's Semi Final of the Kent Cup***

On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February the under 13s football team played in the quarter finals of the Kent cup against Highworth Grammar School.

Isabelle Buchanon went in goal for the first time due to our regular keeper Orla Dorman on the unavailable list. She was called into action several times in what was a very even first half. She was excellent in goal (one fantastic save in particular that she tipped over the cross bar) and with a strong defence in front of her we managed to restrict Highworth to just 1 goal.

At the other end Summer and Kaya were working well together and are a great pairing up front. They were getting a lot of joy in the opposition half. This was mainly from good work by the midfielders getting the ball to them quickly and precisely. We managed a goal of our own to make the scores level at half time.

The second half Highworth started to control the game more as our eleven started to get a little tired from the tremendous effort they put in. The team continued to fight until the end with Leona and Lola making some great interceptions and tackles in defence.

We ended up losing 4-1 but I could not have been more delighted with the commitment levels and attitude they showed. They all trained hard in the week and this showed on the football pitch. I hope we can replicate the performances in this competition when we play in the Bromley Cup. If the girls are able to maintain these high standards then I am sure there will be lots of positive results in the future.

Miss Keen

## ***Edu-Cake and Cel-a-Bake***

A few months ago, Bullers Wood set up its very own Pride Youth Network within the school, in conjunction with Educate & Celebrate. A Pride Youth Network is a group of students from a variety of year groups who meet regularly to discuss how we can ensure equality, conquer prejudice and celebrate diversity within our school community. Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February marked one of our first major events in working towards this – our Edu-Cake and Cel-a-Bake cake sale event. As well as promoting a comfortable and safe environment for everyone in our school and advertising the Pride Youth Network, our cake sale event also helped us raise money for LGBT+ charities. Well done to the students and staff that made amazingly colourful cakes and cookies for the sale, and thank you to everyone that helped with the event – it was a great success, and our school's sense of pride was very evident. We are looking forward to more events like this in the very near future, and hope that our new Pride Youth Network thrives and achieves lots in the coming months and beyond.

Mr Benson





## ***Youth Travel Ambassadors***

We are working with TFL and Bromley Borough on a number of projects which we hope will encourage more of our students to walk to/from or walk part of the way to/from school. So far, we have spoken to students in a number of assemblies about the benefits of walking to them, their friends and parents, the general public and to the environment.

We conducted a survey in October to try and solve the reasons why some students are not currently walking. Recently, we held a Poster and Poetry competition which was enjoyed by many students and staff. We also update our YTA notice board weekly with new and fun information.

We want to do more, so we recently bid for money from TFL to fund exciting projects. We are pleased to announce that we were awarded £250 which we are going to spend on the following:

Yr 7 Buddy Board—a project to help students find somebody to walk with.

Pedometers and Prizes—competition for Yr 7/8 during walking month.

Courtney Henry Yr 8

## ***Sports Hall Athletics***

On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January the year 7 and 8's competed in the Bromley Borough Sports Hall Athletics held at Harris Academy Beckenham. Pupils competed in a variety of track and field events. Both year groups did well, the year 7s came second and the year 8s came third.

Year 8



Year 7



## ***Bullers Wood Boys School Update***

Thank you for your ongoing interest and support for Bullers Wood School for Boys.

We can now inform you that Kier, (our Contractor), has recently had a very positive meeting with the London Borough of Bromley's Planning and Highways Departments. They are addressing the points raised about the scheme in order to achieve planning permission via the quickest route possible.

Additional meetings are scheduled to take place and we should be in a position to provide you with information and feedback during mid-March.

We will continue to update you as soon as we have any more information.





## ***Bromley Youth Council and the UK Youth Parliament***

I have been a member of both the Bromley Youth Council and UK Youth Parliament for four years, and will be standing down in March. In my time on these organisations I have contributed to local and national campaigns with the aim of providing a voice for young people.

On Armistice Day, I and my colleague Joe, who is the second young MP for Bromley, spent a day doing the live televised debate in the House of Commons for BBC Parliament. The debate marks the start of Parliament week and is attended by MPs, the House Speaker John Bercow and over 500 young people from all corners of the UK. We debated issues such the NHS budget cuts, a curriculum to prepare us for life, votes at 16, public transport and tackling racism and religious discrimination. The top voted issues, which will be the 2017 campaigns, were votes at 16 and a curriculum to prepare us for life.

### **Q&A**

#### **What have you most learned from your experience as Bromley Youth Council Representative?**

From the period of campaigning in my school elections to becoming a youth councillor I discovered a small portion of the global world of government and politics. By regularly attending meetings, contributing to discussions and sharing the progress of goals in school assemblies I have greatly improved my knowledge of practical politics in the real world. Working on the 2016 manifesto to implement promises to improve the borough for young people was an intensely interesting experience as it involved using various different skills such as project planning and contrasting views. A more personal achievement for myself was delivering my campaign promise to improve school facilities which I did through winning Jack Petchey funding and also putting the youth council on the 'map' by helping to present our manifesto at an event in a regional shopping centre. I left the council at the end of my tenure feeling that I had really made a positive impact on my school and borough.

These organisations continue to help young people develop into young adults who are fully aware of political changes, but who also strive to make a difference for the lives of young people amidst a changing world. Both these organisations have taught me how to effectively write speeches and create campaigns, network with other young people and politicians as well as introducing me to incredible young people who could definitely give top politicians a run for their money. As far as I am concerned as long as organisations such as the youth parliament and youth council remain active, our country is in safe hands, I am honoured to have worked with them for so long and wish the next representatives the best of luck .

Charlotte Storey Yr 13

#### **What have you most learned from your time as a Bromley Executive member in the field of renewal and recreation?**

Following my election as a young councillor I swiftly went on to be elected by the youth council to become portfolio holder for renewal and recreation. I campaigned for this position as it complemented my geography studies at the time and during the meetings I attended with Bromley councillors I discovered how real world human geography was put into action such as the processes involved in regeneration, rebranding to the intricate details of planning permissions and budgetary management. I also had the role of putting forward the youth councils concerns and forwarding responses, one issue I took particular interest in was the development of a David Bowie bandstand memorial in a local park, and I put forward questions on how it was being funded and whether the council would subsidise fan donations to ensure that the stand was completely refurbished.

Andrew Wolckenhaar Yr 12