

| DATES FOR YOUR DIARY | | | |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| December Dates | | And some dates for January | |
| Thursday 1 st and Friday 2 nd | Year 11 Mocks continue | Thursday 5 th | 8.40am - Term starts for all pupils |
| Tuesday 6 th | 6.30-7.30 Evening for parents with sons in the Year 9 Intervention Programme – by invitation | Monday 9 th – Friday 13 th | Year 9 internal exams |
| Wednesday 7 th | 3.45-6.45 Year 10 Parents Evening | | |
| Wednesday 14 th | 7.30pm - 'Oliver' first night | | |
| Thursday 15 th | pm – 'Oliver' performance to Primary Schools 7.30pm - 'Oliver' last night | | |
| Monday 19 th | 5pm - Final Beverley Governing Body meeting | | |
| Tuesday 20 th | 12.35pm - Term ends for pupils | | |



Feedback on my first month at Beverley.

I am delighted to report that I have received a very warm welcome to Beverley from staff and boys alike and I am very grateful. I can report that the majority of boys have behaved brilliantly, although, sadly, I have had to exclude for short periods a few boys who have let themselves and their school down.

Assemblies at Beverley are particularly impressive with boys listening attentively and behaving impeccably. In the new Assembly Hall which is to be built I will ensure that boys will be able to sit on chairs for Assemblies since that will be so much more dignified.

I am pleased to announce that we will be providing lockers for the boys to keep their possessions, kit and books in. I'm afraid the school will not be able to pay for lockers completely and will need to ask for a contribution from parents, as other schools do.

Progress towards Federation

A 'Federation Implementation Group' of Governors from both schools has been meeting regularly to make decisions on matters of importance to the federated schools. The overall name of the federation will be 'Coombe Secondary Schools' and of course the individual schools will be named 'Coombe Girls' and

'Coombe Boys'. The group has also received feedback from a uniform designer who has been talking to people about new designs to be introduced for new entrants in September 2006.

Admissions for September 2006

I am delighted to report that, after a very successful Prospective Parents Evening and Open Mornings, feedback from the local community has been very positive and we can expect an upsurge in numbers joining the school for next September. I will receive final figures later in the school year but please keep telling everyone the good news.

Specialist School Submission

As parents will know it has been agreed to prepare a submission for Maths and ICT Specialist School Status. Staff are beginning work now with the intention of making the submission by the March deadline. I would be grateful if parents could let me know of any contacts they may have who would assist us either with sponsorship or the preparation of the bid. Thank you.

'Oliver'

Rehearsals for 'Oliver' are well underway now with boys and staff giving up enormous amounts of time to make this production really one to remember. Miss O'Reilly, the producer, reports that the cast members have been brilliant and that they are looking forward to showing off their acting talents

to friends and family. A matinee performance will take place on Thursday 15th December to local primary schools. Tickets for the two evening performances are available from the School Office.

Mrs Campbell
Headteacher

£6m School Refurbishment Update.

The plan for the total refurbishment of the school site to include new canteen, dining area, school hall and technology block is progressing albeit slowly. The Borough are currently in the process of appointing the consultants who will be carrying the project forward over the next few years. The consultation with the school's immediate neighbours was very positive resulting in many helpful suggestions being put forward. Planning work with each individual department will start in earnest once the consultants are appointed.

Mr P Goble
Deputy Headteacher – Coombe Girls'

Year 11 Coursework Support Sessions

During the term a number of Year 11 students have been focusing on completing their coursework and ensuring that it is of the very best standard possible. Many departments have offered intensive coursework support sessions after school, during half term and on Saturdays. These sessions have been very well attended and I am certain that many of our Year 11 students have reaped the benefit of these extra sessions.

Year 11 Mentoring

In order to ensure that our Year 11 students gain success in their GCSEs in the summer of 2006 they have been undertaking a programme of academic mentoring throughout this term. All Year 11 students have an academic mentor, who looks after their individual needs and encourages them with their work. This process will be supported by further intervention strategies in the spring and summer terms. In January all Year 11 students will undergo a month long study skills programme during their citizenship lessons. This will be run by Kevin Hayes, an outside consultant, who has a great deal of expertise in this area.

The school has also received £9,000 from the London Challenge initiative, which can be used to support Year 11 in achieving success. Part of this money will be spent on a programme of rewarding students for good work and progress and some of it

will be spent on extra revision classes on Saturdays, after school and during the holidays. Further details will be sent to Year 11 parents next term.

Year 9 Intervention

As part of our programme to ensure that our SATs results remain very good the Year 9 intervention programme continues to run. This term a number of students have had the opportunity to work in small groups in order to improve their skills in English, Maths and Science. At the same time those students who need an extra push to gain their Level 5's in English, Maths and Science examinations next summer have had extra staff allocated to their teaching groups to help support this group of boys.

On Tuesday 6th December at 6.30pm Mrs Dwyer is running an extra Year 9 curriculum evening for those parents of boys in Year 9 who again need extra help in ensuring success in the SAT's examinations for 2006. The aim of the evening is to help parents understand what we do in school to help their sons achieve success and also to consider ways students can be helped at home. These intervention strategies will be put in place during the spring and summer terms and Mrs Dwyer will write home to all Year 9 parents with details about these.

Mrs Dwyer
Deputy Headteacher

SCHOOL UNIFORM

I would like to take this opportunity to ask you to please ensure your son is correctly dressed at all times. A number of students have recently been wearing black training shoes to school. These are not part of the school uniform. Likewise, sweat tops are not permitted. If, for some reason, your son does not have part of this uniform please provide a note to explain the reason.



I would like to add that the vast majority of students are very well presented and a credit to the school. A number of them have recently been involved in discussions about changing the uniform and have come forward with some excellent ideas. You will, of course, be informed about any changes.

Mr Fidler
Deputy Headteacher

Student Voice

On the 8th November eight of our Year 10 students took part in a Student Voice event with five other schools at Coombe Girls' School. The event was intended to promote dialogue between students and staff on how students learn best. The students worked in groups and discussed topics such as the use of interactive whiteboards, marking and assessment and teaching and learning strategies. The students presented their feedback to all other students taking part in the event, and these were videoed in order that they can be used for staff training purposes within school. The students who took part were commended for their contributions and high level commitment throughout the day. Well Done to all those boys who took part.

Mrs Dwyer - Deputy Headteacher
Miss Hallahan - Head of Sixth Form

English, Drama, Media Departments News

15 Year 9 English students were offered the chance to meet and chat to Kevin Brookes, the award winning author of *Martyn Pig* and *Lucas*. The author's visit took place at Coombe Girls' School in the Learning Resource Centre and the students were able to question him on his reasons for becoming a writer and about his new book *Lucas*.

All Year 7 students took part in a Key Stage 3 reader's workshop with the Kingston Librarians in October. Students were entertained by extracts from young people's fiction, not to mention the entertaining anecdotes from the librarians themselves.

GCSE Drama students in Year 10 and 11 were invited to King's College Wimbledon's Upper Sixth production of *Twelve Angry Men*. The production was staged in the round and was a thrilling and intimate performance. The cast emerged in the interval and chatted to the students about their roles and the rehearsal process. The experience was thoroughly enjoyed by staff and students alike.

"Oliver, Oliver, never before has a boy asked for more" or so the song goes! 75 students and staff have been working since September to produce this year's Christmas production. The 14th and 15th December approaches as does the school's Christmas Production of *'Oliver the Musical'*, performed in the Sports Hall. Seats are now available from Mrs Fash in the School Office. Don't miss out.

Miss O'Reilly
Head of English, Drama and Media

Sports Update

Fulham FC's under 18 scholars, are coming into Beverley to give our boys the fantastic experience of professional football coaching. The players will lead expert sessions that will be enjoyable and educational. This unique opportunity is made possible through the Sports Co-ordinator programme and our strong links with Fulham FC.

Beverley boys have had a tremendous start to the sporting season this year. Our football teams have had success all across the years; noticeably Year 9 and 10 winning some excellent league and cup games. The year 9's tactically outwitted and physically overran Esher in a 3-1 Beverley triumph. **Jake Gordon's** audacious free kick is a contender for 'Goal of the Year'. The basketball team are currently top of the Surrey League.

The Year 10's have had an excellent start to the season with both the football and basketball teams winning several games. The football team have progressed in the Surrey Cup after a great 4-3 victory over Cheam High - **Billy Goodson** scoring the sublime winner.

The Year 7 and 8's have shown great improvement in their football matches this season. Both years are looking forward to the upcoming basketball fixtures.

Well done to the Year 7 boys who have learnt to swim at the Malden Centre. There will be a selection of Year 8 pupils who will also be given this brilliant opportunity. Please contact Mr Griffith if you are interested.

A Year 7 athletics team are combining with Coombe Girls' to compete in a district tournament. Good luck Team Coombe.

Mr Griffith
School Sports Co-ordinator

Some news for the Modern Foreign Languages Dept.

We have had a very successful introduction of French into the Modern Foreign Languages Curriculum. All of Year 7 are now studying French instead of German and Year 8 have had the choice of continuing with German or learning French. Our Year 9's have continued with German in the hope that they will choose it as an option for GCSEs. Five Year 11 students will also be joining Coombe Girls' School on 2nd December to visit a Christmas Market in Aachen, Germany.

Ms Wojtowicz
Head of MFL

Art Department News

The Art Department welcomes Mrs. Wood, who began teaching here at the start of the term.

This term, Sixth Form Art students have visited Wimbledon School of Art, to gain first-hand experience of the Foundation course on offer. Year 12 students visited the National Portrait Gallery as part of their course.

Years 10 & 11 Applied Art students are currently showing the results of their *Natural Forms Print Project* at the Guildhall, Kingston. Furthermore, very good examples of students' work, on this course, have been included on the OCR Art & Design CD ROM.

The Art Department's Prospective Parents Evening in October was very enjoyable. There were a high number of parents and their sons visiting the department. Very special thanks to **Cameron Cargill** in Year 7, for his excellent demonstrations on the techniques of papier-mâché, for the visiting parents and children.

VACANCIES

Two positions have become available from early January.

Reprographics / Clerical Assistant – A part-time vacancy, 9 hours per week, Term time only. Mon, Wed, Fri mornings 09.00am – 12:00pm. You will form part of a small Learning Resource Centre team with specific responsibilities for reprographics.

Receptionist – Monday – Thursday 08.00am – 16.30pm and Fridays 08.00am – 12.00pm, Term time only. (Possible Job Share) Candidate should be of smart appearance, able to work well under pressure, and have a pleasant telephone manner. Excellent all round office skills including Microsoft Excel and Word.

For application details please call the finance office on 020 8296 9937 or email bvbb@rbksch.org.

NEWS FROM THE PSA

We are looking forward to seeing you all at Oliver where we will be serving the refreshments as well as enjoying the production.

We will also be holding a raffle so if any parents would like to donate prizes we would be very grateful if you would hand them in to the School Office.

We wish all involved a great show and extra good luck to Miss O'Reilly who has worked very hard to put this all together.

The PSA send a Christmas wish to all the students, parents and staff and hope that everyone has a happy holiday. Enjoy and relax, if possible. We look forward to next year and hope to attract some new members to the PSA bringing with them some fresh ideas

Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year

Angela Bulbeck
PSA Chair



I have received the Beverley School DECEMBER 2005 Newsletter

Son's Name: _____ Tutor Group _____

Signed: _____ Dated: _____