



Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential.



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29th March 2018

www.blackfenschoolforgirls.co.uk



Ailsa Maporisa, Year 10 at the 'Jack Petchey Bexley Speak up' event

Head Teacher's Message

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to start this Newsletter by thanking, on your behalf, all staff for their work this term with our continued focus on improving teaching and learning and the raising attainment agenda. It has been a very busy term of events and parents' evenings. I would also like to thank you for all your support during this term.

Our year 13 music students organised and led our evening of music and dance last week. This was a fantastic evening which showcased their hard work over the last two years. My thanks to Mr Olan and Mr Newton-Grant for all their work with these students during years 12 and 13.

The annual Jack Petchey Bexley speak up – speak out challenge took place last week at Trinity school. Ailsa Maporisa (year 10) was selected to represent the school at this event and she was well supported by Feto Ogungbayi who was the reserve for the event. Ailsa gave a superb performance of 'have a fearless roar'. My thanks to Mrs Norwood for all her work on this.

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NEXT ISSUE: 27th April 2018

The school governors recently attended a training day in the school which focused on school self-evaluation and school improvement. Sessions were led by Miss Hand and Dr Valletta. As part of the morning, students gave feedback on various mentoring schemes which take place in the school. Governors were treated to lunch with some of our student leaders. A very positive day all round.

During the last 2 weeks it has been great to celebrate the successes of so many of our young people in the end of term achievement assemblies. Well done to all students who received an award.

Staffing news

At the end of term, we say goodbye to some staff. Mr Frondigoun leaves to take up a head of year position at a school in Bromley. We thank him for his work in the history department. Mrs Czapla finishes her temporary position in PE. Finally, we say goodbye to Mrs Harvey (Cover supervisor) as she leaves for promotion. On behalf of the school I thank them for all their work.

Miss Langham is getting married during the Easter break. We hope that she has a great day.

As last year, to ensure that all staff are updated on policies, procedures, current thinking and future planning we will be holding half termly staff meetings. The dates for these are Tuesday 24th April and Tuesday 5th June. On these dates students should be in school by 8.40 for lesson 1 to begin at 8.45.

End of term

The summer term starts on Monday 16 April 2018 at 8.20 for an 8.30 start. It will be week B.

I wish you a pleasant and peaceful Easter.

Best wishes,



Matthew Brown, Head teacher

Preparing for adulthood strategy

Please find attached links to the Draft Bexley Preparing for Adulthood Strategy consultation web page and surveys.

Consultation Page: www.bexley.gov.uk/preparingforadulthood

Online Survey for young people: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/preparingforadulthood

Online Survey for carers and other stakeholders: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/pfacarers

There are a series of engagement sessions during April/May (please find attached flyers for these events) which young people and parents/carers are invited to attend.

Governors' Message

As the School prepares to embark on the Easter vacation we can look back on a busy term and forward to new term in which the main focus will be on examinations. The Governing Body wish our students every success in their examinations and are confident that the high achievement of previous years will be maintained.

The usual cycle of committee meetings continued during this term including Curriculum, Finance and Audit, Premises and Staffing. The results of these meetings were reported to the Full Governing Body which met last week. Next term members of the Governing Body will continue to make visits to the School including those to Faculty and the Senior Leadership Team as a continuing part of the regular monitoring procedures, these too will be reported back to the full Governing Body Meeting when it next meets.

One important event to report upon is the Governors Day which took place towards the end of the term. This yearly event is an opportunity for Governors to meet students and staff as well as examining in depth a theme associated with School Governance. The theme this time was "Using self- evaluation to help governors understand the priorities of the school in the context of the school vision and their role in helping to implement it". Excellent sessions were prepared by Mr Brown, Dr Valletta and Ms Hand. Also we had presentations from a group of students who shared their experiences of the mentoring process within the School, and had the opportunity of having lunch with other students to discuss their time at Blackfen. It was an excellent day and we thank everyone for all their efforts including Ms Cull for ensuring everything was available when required.

The Governing Body would like to take this opportunity to wish students, staff, parents and carers a restful vacation.

Stuart Fitz-Gerald, Chair of Governors

Sun protection

I firmly believe that we all have a role to play in educating our young people in the importance of being safe in the sun. There is a letter attached to this Newsletter regarding the school's sun protection policy. This has been developed in conjunction with parents, staff and health professionals. Please spend some time to reinforce the important messages in the letter and in the policy.

The policy is available on the website.

AUP (Acceptable Use Policy 2018)

Please find attached our most up to date Acceptable Use Policy for your information. The Policy is designed to promote more effective communications between parents / carers and the school in order to support young people with their learning around the use of ICT and new technologies.

Uniform Reminder

Please remember that Year 7 coats must be Black or Navy Blue as per the uniform and equipment information issued in July last year.

'Outerwear should consist of a plain navy or black coat, jacket, raincoat, anorak/cagoule, or duffle coat. Coats of other colours or with large logos or brand names are not permitted and may be confiscated. Denim, fur/ fake fur, leather or suede jackets are not acceptable. Any hair decoration, including bandanas, must be discrete and in school colours; black, red or navy. All Hijabs must be plain black, red or navy.'

Students wearing incorrect uniform may have items confiscated and will receive a signature on their conduct card

Miss Hoad, Assistant Head teacher

Careers and Work Experience

Junior Ready Steady Light Competition at Rose Bruford College

Blackfen School for Girls were awarded the Collaborative Prize for justifying their design, teamwork and a good working environment!



Congratulations to **Millie Carter P3, Francesca Lee B7, Amy Li P6 and Baileigh Wedderburn Y5** for their hard work and effort.

PE News

Football News

The U13 Girls Football team came runners up in the EFL Club Final Girls Cup at Charlton Athletic FC training ground. After finishing tied at the top of the league table, the girls went on to play in a play-off against Welling, only losing by one unlucky goal. A great team effort!



Cross Country News

A deserved well done to Olivia Hale (Year 7, G2) who represented Bexley Schools in the Kent Schools Cross Country Championships race in Dover. The race took place at The Royal Duke of York Military School and was ran over a distance of 2550 metres, and despite the VERY wet and muddy conditions

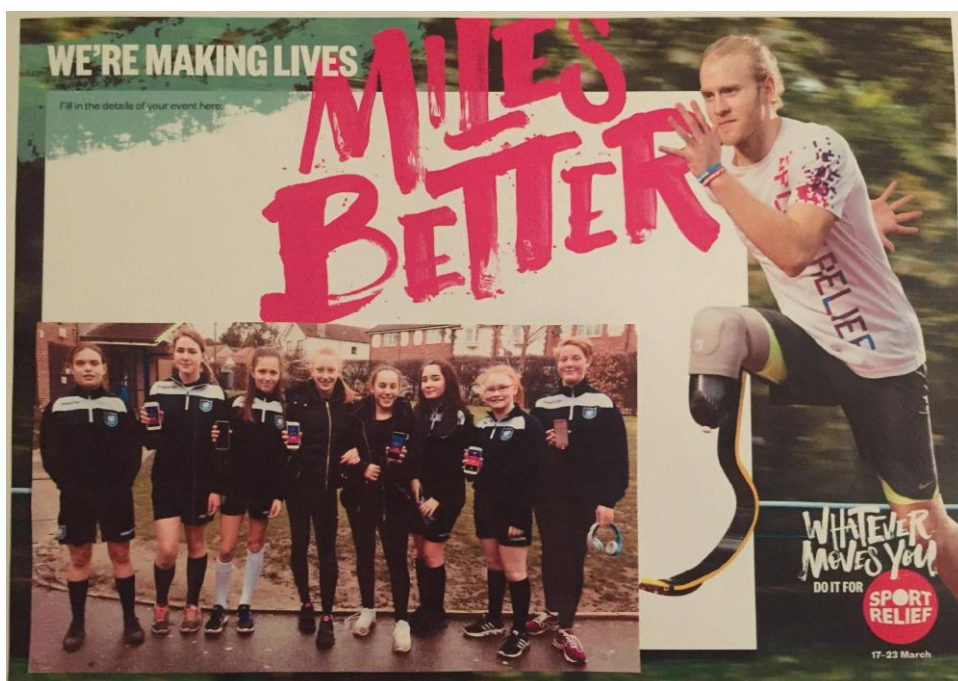
Olivia finished 12th in a field of 105 runners. A fantastic effort #PROUD.

Sport Relief 2018

This week we are fundraising for Sport Relief and asking students to have fun, feel good and do some good by taking part in the Sport Relief Mile during their PE lesson.

The football squad is also taking on a separate challenge and raising money by making every step count in a bid to walk 500,000 steps between us by Friday 23rd March.

If you want a challenge, then download the Sport Relief App and take on the nations billion steps challenge...get involved!



Miss Langham, Subject Leader of PE

Update from the Data Office

Please be advised that Spring Progress Update reports have been issued to all students via Form Tutors. Please contact the Data Office if you have not received this information.

Calendar of Events – Spring/Summer Terms 2018

Details of Events scheduled so far

Date	Event
Thursday 29 th March 2018	Last day of Term School finishes at 12.50pm
Monday 2nd – Friday 13th April 2018	Easter Holidays
Monday 16 th April 2018	Start of term at 8.30am (Week B)
Tuesday 24 th April 2018	Extended Staff Briefing - school starts at 8.45am
Thursday 26 th April 2018	Year 7 Parents Evening 4.30pm – 7.00pm
Friday 27 th – Monday 30 th April 2018	Duke of Edinburgh weekend (practice)
Monday 30 th April 2018	Year 8 HPV Immunisation
Thursday 3 rd May 2018	Year 8 Parents Evening 4.30pm – 7.00pm
Monday 7th May 2018	Bank Holiday
Friday 18 th – Monday 21 st May 2018	Duke of Edinburgh Weekend
Monday 21 st May 2018	Year 8 & 9 Immunisation catch up session
Wednesday 23 rd May 2018	Sixth Form Oscars
Friday 25 th May 2018	Sixth Form Leavers Assembly
Monday 28th May – Friday 1st June 2018	Half Term
Tuesday 5 th June 2018	Extended Staff Briefing – school starts at 8.45am
WB 11 th June 2018	Year 10 PPE week
Thursday 14 th June 2018	Sports Awards Evening
Wednesday 20 th June 2018	Summer Festival
Monday 26 th & Tuesday 27 th June 2018	Art Exhibition
<i>Thursday 28th June 2018</i>	<i>Challenge Day</i>
Thursday 28 th – Friday 29 th June 2018	Year 12 Eastbourne Trip
Friday 29 th June 2018	Year 12 Induction Day/Year 11 Celebration
Monday 2 nd – Friday 13 th July 2018	Year 10 Work Experience fortnight
Monday 2 nd July 2018	Green Community Certificate Presentation
Tuesday 3 rd July 2018	Year 6 Induction day and Year 6 Parents Evening
Wednesday 4 th July 2018	Red Community Certificate Presentation
Thursday 5 th July 2018	Yellow Community Certificate Presentation
Friday 6 th July 2018	Purple Community Certificate Presentation
Monday 9 th July 2018	Blue Community Certificate Presentation
Tuesday 10 th July 2018	Sports Day
Wednesday 11 th July 2018	Discover Day 1
Thursday 12 th July 2018	Discover Day 2
Friday 13 th July 2018	Last Day of Term – school finishes at 12.50pm