



2017 Spring Concert Review

This year's big school concert took place on Monday evening this week, and featured a wide range of school ensembles. There was a wide range of music on display, including music from the opera, Carmen by Bizet, performed by Symphony Orchestra; Senior Choir performed a medley of music by McFly, and Chamber Choir impressed with their interpretations of Disney classics 'When She Loved Me' from Toy Story and a new take on the Monkey song from the Jungle Book. Big Band were as brilliant as usual, featuring Joshua Hall singing Stevie Wonder's 'Once in my Life' and Jenni Hill singing the Nat King Cole classic 'Orange Coloured Sky', with all of Senior Choir providing the backing vocals! We heard some brilliant jazz clarinet from Year 13 IB Higher Music student Josh Masters, who performed Charlie Parker's Anthropology, a performance which was recorded and will make up part of his Performance Portfolio.

My favourite thing about this concert was the leading role taken by some of our Sixth Form Music Prefects; it is so brilliant to see how these students have developed over the last 5-6 years! Heather Goodchild is a Music Prefect, who volunteers to help with Junior Orchestra rehearsals every week, supporting younger musicians during the rehearsal. This term, she arranged a piece of music for them to play 'Go the Distance' from Disney's Hercules, and she even conducted them in the concert.



The Metronomes play to a full Hall 21/3/17

Luke Montgomery, another Year 12 Music Prefect, arranged the piece 'Strasbourg St Denis' for the Bexley Improv Group to perform, and they did a superb job with his arrangement. The Junior Choir demonstrated a high level of energy in their performance of 'Chattanooga Choo Choo', with some brilliant dance moves, and were accompanied professionally by another Year 12 Music Prefect, Jacob Mills.



Junior Orchestra conducted by Year 12 Music student Heather Goodchild

We are very sad to be shortly saying goodbye to our wonderful Year 13 students; they have made such massive contribution to the school and the department, and we will really miss them! Particular thanks must go to Adam Kelly, who organised a really successful gig last week with his band 'The Metronomes'. This was a new venture for the school, and was very well organised - they raised over £400 for the Music Department.



Big Band

Of our 15 students studying IB Music, A-Level Music and A-Level Music Technology, nine are going on this year to study music-related courses at university. What makes this department so special is the students who give so much; we are so proud of the way that all of them have developed; we wish them the best of luck!



String Orchestra

Miss Swadkin

2017 Gifted and Talented - Year 7 Boys

On Thursday the 24th March, a group of Year 7 boys went to Gifted and Talented sports trip at Crook Log leisure centre. We had a great time! We walked there, and after about 10 minutes we arrived! On the way we'd had a good time, talking to our friends. We ate lunch at the centre, and, having got changed at school, we started. Two trainers told us the rules, and what we should and shouldn't do. Then we went upstairs, and got onto the exercise bikes.



The trainers worked hard, making us do certain amounts of time pedalling as fast as possible, but we always got rests afterwards. Then we split into groups, each doing a different task, then moving on to the next one. My group's first task involved a square, which you were standing in, of lights which would light up at random, then when touched in the middle they would turn off and another would turn on. This we did for a minute, then the lights stopped lighting up and we had no time left. There was also a public competition on the walls, but I don't think I did very well on that one.



Our next task was also tricky. We were on elliptical trainers, and we had to adjust them quite a lot, each time getting harder. We spent about 10 minutes on those, every so often doing little 10 second sprints and trying to keep our pace the same, or at least about the same, throughout the whole 10 minutes. By the time it was time to move on to the next thing, my legs were burning and I was exhausted!



Our 4th and final task was my favourite. We spent 10 minutes or so again on the treadmills, going at whatever pace we felt we could keep up. When we got off, though, I was extremely dizzy from running, yet not moving, and I almost fell over a few times. But soon that feeling was gone, and I felt happy because I'd had a great time. I think that everyone else did as well.



Thank you so much to all the PE teachers who helped organise this, and especially Mrs Kemp, who took us on the trip. We all had a great time!

Oscar Zurdo, Year 7

Young Enterprise Chameleon Dental Update

On the 22nd March 2017, Bexley Grammar school's own Chameleon Dental took part in the 1st stage of the Young Enterprise competition.

The team has just finished production of the 1st Generation prototype of their product: the innovative, eco-friendly colour changing toothbrush.

The competition took place in Bexley Civic Offices, where judges formed a panel and adjudicated over 7 different teams who had products ranging from personalised pencils to pillows with built in speakers. We were required to produce a business report, presentation and a trade stand all about our products which would all be presented on the day. We had to stand up and speak not only in front of the judges, but the other schools, teachers, members of the Council, various business people, representatives from the Rotary Club of Sidcup, Charlton Athletic and Madam Deputy Mayor! Ultimately, it was the judges who would make a final decision on a winner according to a variety of aspects.

The five representing members of the team; Shyon Gredley, Swechha Kansakar, Samson Co, Jack Dalton and I geared up and made our way from School to the Offices where we met our competition. I must say the process was incredibly nerve-wracking, however, we pulled together as the mighty Bexley Grammar students we are and managed to astound the entire audience with an amazing report, presentation and trade stand. We won 4 out of the 6 awards, which were as follows: Best Presentation, Best Report in Bexley: Best Company in Bexley and Best Company in South East London. As a result, we will proceed to the next stage which will take place in the Citi Building, Canary Wharf on the 4th May.



The process has been unimaginably exciting and I can confirm my skills and that of our team have developed exponentially during the course of the academic year due to this fantastic opportunity.

On a final note, I want to thank on behalf of Chameleon Dental, the School once again for the support they have shown. Due to this constant support, I know it won't be the last time thanking because the support truly does go on.

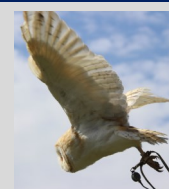
Tyreece Jacobs, Year 12

Congratulations to the whole team for such a fantastic result. The five presenting members were under a lot of pressure from stiff competition but the judges were clearly very impressed with Chameleon Dental's performance! As was I, the presentation in particular created a real buzz in the room. Well done and the very best of luck for the next round!

Miss Wood, Young Enterprise Coordinator



Flying High at Eagle Heights



On ECM day a group of 11 of us from years 7-9 went on the most brilliant day out to Eagle Heights Wildlife Foundation. It didn't take us long to get there so we were there early, but then we found out they were opening it up just for us. We felt very privileged. We wandered around looking at all of the birds of prey getting really close. We saw birds such as European Eagle Owls, Bald Eagles and African Hawk Eagles to name but a few. There were areas where there were reptiles and Meerkats for us to have a look at.

The highlight of the day was watching the flying display. We saw a Gyr Falcon, Striated Caracara, Marabou Stork and a Barn Owl just flying around our heads and we were told endless information about them and we were able to ask questions, all of which were answered fully. One of the most amazing things was while the bird expert was doing his display far above our heads a huge wild Red Kite was soaring, looking down on us watching the display of the birds.

After lunch we had a talk by two keepers and met two of the foundation's Husky dogs. There are about 30 Husky dogs at the foundation that have been rescued. They were gorgeous and friendly and we were allowed to stroke them and ask questions about them. It was a really informative and fun day and we are excited for the next trip.

Year 7



Jack Petchey Leader Award

Last summer Miss Brand was nominated for and awarded the second Bexley Grammar School Jack Petchey Leader Award. As a result of her Award we were able to apply for a Small Grant of £750 to spend on a project of her choice. The funding was used to enable fifteen members of staff at BGS to complete an 8 week mindfulness course. These teachers were from a range of different departments and with varying responsibilities in school, including the Headteacher and the School Counsellor. This 8 week course is the first stage in preparing teachers to be able to teach mindfulness in the future.



Jack Petchey Award Winners for academic year 2016 – 2017 (so far)

Since September four Jack Petchey awards have been presented;

Saki Okada in Year 10 won the September **Mabbs** Award – she was nominated for the work she does volunteering at her local library, particularly working with disabled children. Saki is always smiling, being polite and helpful to everyone.

Amed Yones, Year 13 in October for **Prothero** – she was nominated for her work with charity organisations which provide help for disadvantaged people suffering in the Middle East. She has protested the plight of the Kurdish people and wrote an open letter to David Cameron, to which she got a response. She is a caring, brilliant person all round, praised by her form, and is heading to university to study Politics and International Relations.

Joy Hui, Year 8 for **Wellman** - Joy spent her summer break in Romania volunteering at a youth camp for underprivileged children with her church group. Since returning to school, she has continued to volunteer at the new school library every week and was instrumental in getting it set up after it was relocated to a more central location.

Katherine Henderson Year 9 for **Collins** House in January – Katherine takes part in lots of House events and is a very good student. She helps out with the community a lot by being involved in various clubs such as gymnastics, badminton, karate and netball in school. Katherine is a role model for the school, the House system and her form. She works hard in school and puts in lots of effort into extracurricular activities.

The final five awards will be reported on later in the year.

Mrs Snelling, Head Leader



THE GOSCARS ARE HERE... have you been nominated? Awarded?

The Goscars are for Geography students who have gone above and beyond the confines of the classroom... in any way: Creatively, effort in homework: or impressing the Goscar Judges by showing us the love of Geography. Awards are every month and are posted on our presentation board outside the Geography office.

PLUS ... this will put you in the HALL OF FAME.



Mrs Belton, Geography Department

Parent Governor News

Following a ballot in which well over 100 votes were cast, Governors are pleased to announce that Mr M Woodhall was nominated by parents as Parent Governor, following Mrs A Saridogan's move to the role of Appointed Governor. Mr Woodhall has provided a brief introduction of himself to parents:

I want to serve BGS and contribute to its aim of enabling people to achieve their potential, as well as develop an international perspective. I have experience of supporting organisations, including the Prince's Trust and the British Psychological Society, and was treasurer at our local church for four years. My work in Learning & Development involves developing leaders for a large multinational organisation. I have a Doctorate in Occupational Psychology, which means I can facilitate workshops, support team development, and advise on assessment processes. I have a daughter in Year 7 at BGS and am keen to offer what I can to support the school.

We wish Mr Woodhall success in his new role.

Examinations News

Year 12 Part i's Examinations Timetable

The Year 12 Part i's examinations timetable has been distributed to students and is on the website, you can also view it by clicking on the link below.



Year 10 & Year 12 IB Students

Links to the mock examination timetables and details of study leave arrangements for students in Year 10 and 12 (IB students only) are also available below.

[Year 12 Part i's Examination Timetable](#)

[Year 10 Mock Exam Timetable](#)

[Year 10 Exams & Study Leave Letter](#)

[Year 12 IB Mock Exam Timetable](#)

[Year 12 IB Exams & Study Leave Letter](#)

Examinations Office

Easter Magazine

Click [HERE](#) to read the Bexley Grammar School Easter Magazine which includes the Head's Easter message.



Thank you to the Bexley Grammar School Parents' Association

With the current spending cuts in education, the role of the Parents' Association is more important than ever and we are very fortunate to have a dedicated and enthusiastic PA.

The new library is a great example of how PA funding has been used effectively to update all the fixtures and fittings. This large project has created a brilliant learning space for all students in the school. In addition to large projects; the PA also supports many small initiatives that enhance the experience of school life for students; computers, recording equipment and specialist books are just some examples of the additional items that the PA have provided.

There are a number of ways that you could support their fantastic work. If you were able to help with an event, please email Kathy, the Chair of the PA parentpabgs@gmail.com.

You could also raise money, simply by shopping through easyfundraising;
<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bexleygrammar>

The contribution that the Parents' Association make to our community is invaluable and the money that they raise makes a real difference the provision that we can offer.

Mrs Sarah Sword



SOUTHEND TICKETS

ADVENTURE ISLAND & ADVENTURE GOLF

BGS Parents' Association (BGSPA) has yet again been able to secure reduced price ride wristbands for Adventure Island, Southend. Adventure Island is a great day out for all the family, with a wide choice of rides for all ages. Check it out at: www.adventureisland.co.uk

Although entry is free, purchase of a wristband is required for unlimited use of all suitable rides. Once purchased, a wristband can be used on any one day in 2017 that Adventure Island is open. At peak times (weekends and school holidays), for anyone who is over 1.2 metres tall, a wristband would cost £23.20 if purchased online (£29 if purchased at the ticket office on the day). The PA can provide these for **only £17.20**. For those who are 1.2 metres tall, or less, we have wristbands for **only £14.20**, instead of the usual £19.20 online price (£24 if purchased at the ticket office on the day). We also have on offer Golf Tickets at Southend Adventure Island for £2.00 each – usual price on the day is £4.00.

Wristbands are available as follows:

Big Adventure Band for anyone over 1.2 metres tall. This permits unlimited access to **all** rides.

Junior Band for anyone 1 to 1.2 metres tall. This permits unlimited use of more than 20 rides with a lower height restriction.

If you would like to purchase reduced price wristbands (these are valid for 2017) please click [HERE](#) and complete the form. Completed forms should be returned with your payment to the PA box at the school reception in an envelope marked "Adventure Island". Please make cheques payable to **Bexley Grammar School PA**.



News Items You May Have Missed

Taming of the Shrew Tickets

The premiere is on at 7.00pm, Tuesday 25th April and runs until Wednesday 26th April.

Click [HERE](#) to purchase your tickets.



It's that time of the year again when we start collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers. Please send them in to School and ask your child to deposit them in the box by Reception.

Thank you

Forthcoming Events

April

Tuesday 18th ~ First school day of the Summer Term

Tuesday 18th ~ Year 10 and Year 12 (IB students only) mock examination period begins

Tuesday 25th ~ Taming of the Shrew

Wednesday 26th ~ Taming of the Shrew

Friday 28th ~ Year 10 and Year 12 (IB students only) mock examination period ends

**Students return to school on
Tuesday 18th April 2017**

