



STEM TRIP

A few weeks ago, 32 Year 8 pupils went to a Careers Fair with Miss Lynch and Mr Murray. Held at Erith Leisure centre, many schools in the Borough attended. The purpose of the Fair was to give examples of the many career opportunities available in the STEM fields – Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths – that we may wish to pursue. Beforehand, we had to do some research into the STEM fields and the companies that would be at the Fair. We were also allocated an area to focus on.

When we arrived in the hall, we were given an introduction in which 'Brainiac's' Mr Jon Tickle gave us some advice about what to do when we were old enough to work. Examples of this advice ranged from not to give up if you don't initially succeed, to how to shake someone's hand.

We then had about an hour to talk to the different employers at the Fair; some of these included The Army, Coca Cola, Transport for London and Laing O'Rourke. We had to ask different questions about the occupations that they offer; which subjects, A-levels and GCSEs are needed; what's the average pay; what individual careers do they offer.

We learnt a lot from the day, and it certainly raised awareness about STEM careers. More information will be passed on to each form through the students that attended.

Katie Chant, Matt Ward and Chris Goring, 8PEB

Careers Day

Each year we run a careers day for students in Year 10 and Year 12, and this year's event will be on 24th June. It's an important opportunity for students to hear directly from people in different careers and we would be glad to hear from any parents who could talk about their area of work.

There are two ways of getting involved: man a table at the careers fair (running from about 11.00 to 1.30) and chat to students about your career path/line of work, and/or spend 50 minutes with a group of Year 10 students, giving them an introduction to your career area, perhaps talking about how to get into it, what job roles exist and what it is really like. If you think you might be able to take part, or are not sure and would like to know a bit more, please contact the careers department by e-mailing longman_p@bexleygs.co.uk.

Thank you.

Mrs Longman

Forthcoming Events

Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June ~ Half Term

Tuesday 14th June ~ UCAS information evening for Year 12

Saturday 18th June ~ Sports Day and Summer Fayre

Monday 20th June ~ Day off in lieu of Sports Day

Rugby Report

An enormous well done to all of our rugby teams who have enjoyed a season of unparalleled success this year. Our new Year 7 team dominated their league, finishing top and undefeated in league play. This was supported by additional coaching we received from Sidcup RFC which really helped the boys in Years 7 and 8. We finished top of our leagues in Years 8, 9 and 10 – the first time this has happened for BGS. Each league finishes with a final match between the teams which finished in first and second place – these will take place in September. In order to prepare for this I would strongly recommend that any of our players who wish to play more rugby outside school head to Sidcup RFC, or one of our other local rugby clubs, who are always looking for talented players. Come and see me for details.

Mr Lines

Extended Essay

Last week the Year 12 IB cohort was off timetable conducting research into their extended essay. We were particularly impressed by the capacity of the group to work independently and to think creatively when difficulties arise. The extended essay is an ideal practical preparation for the kind of undergraduate research our students will be undertaking in the not too distant future. Although everyone researching an extended essay is supported by a teacher supervisor the emphasis is very much on the student engaging in an in depth study of a topic that interests them. The students are responsible for formulating an appropriate question and the subsequent investigation. It is quite a daunting task and by its very nature it will not always be straight forward but the lessons the students learn and the way they deal with problems is invaluable experience and is central to the successful delivery of the "learner profile".
<https://www.ibo.org/programmes/profile/documents/Learnerprofileguide.pdf>



As in previous years students have chosen a wide range of diverse titles, for example; 'What is the effect on common hand-washes on E-coli?'; 'En el trilogía teatro, ¿como presenta Lorca a las mujeres con relación su libertad y sexualidad?'; 'Are white willow tablets effective herbal replacements for commercial aspirins?'; 'What would the economic impact be if Crystal Palace FC left Selhurst Park?'.
Mr Brown

Summer Fayre ~ Donation Requests

A few pitches left! We are able to open the opportunity again to parents to run a stall at our forthcoming Summer Fayre alongside the nearly 40 stalls currently being planned by students and staff. Places are extremely limited and we will have to operate on a 'first come first served' basis. Stalls will contribute in some way to the community aims of the Summer Fayre and will raise money for the Parents' Association stated fundraising drive: to enhance Sixth Form facilities. If you would like to participate, please email the school at enquiries@bexleygs.co.uk with a brief description of the stall and how it would raise funds for the PA.
Mrs Mallin

The office ladies are again planning to hold a Bottle Tombola at the Summer Fayre and we would be very grateful for any donations of different types of 'bottles' – filled obviously! Our stall was really successful last year and we had lots of fun.

Contributions could include wine and spirits as well as perfume and bath products, re-filled jars of sweets, savoury sauces etc – the possibilities are endless.

If you have anything to donate, the ladies on Reception will be pleased to receive your contribution.

Thank you from us all.

Mrs Kendall

The Attendance Office will be running a second-hand book stall at the Summer Fayre and would be grateful for any donations of unwanted books. Any donations should be brought to the Attendance Office. Thank you.
Mrs Thomas

Notices

Jack Petchey Foundation Award Winners ~ A reminder to our previous Jack Petchey Award winners to please spend your prizes as soon as possible. The £200 is waiting for you and needs to be spent. If you are struggling for inspiration come and see me for ideas: the "buy a brick" campaign is always looking for donations!
Mr Lines

Sign Language ~ Will all the students from Elly and Hannah's after school sign language club please come and see Miss Bobin in room M3 on Monday 16th May 2011 at 15:10 thank you.
Miss Bobin

Tesco vouchers ~ Thank you for your continued support collecting Tesco vouchers this year. Sunday was the last day for issuing the vouchers so if you have any left to send in would you please send them in as soon as possible? Please check through your bags, pockets, cars etc. so we can get some great equipment! Thanks again.

Pat Hamilton Science Technician

Let's get cooking ~ There is a four week Cookery Club course starting on **Wednesday 8th June**. The programme will include exciting dishes such as Special Fried Rice, Chinese Chicken Hot-Pot and a Lamb Tagine based on the flavours found in Moroccan Cuisine.

As usual the course is open to Year 7 students but if you are in another year and have not been on one of our courses before, come and speak to Mrs Young.

This will be the final course offered this year and places are limited so **collect your application pack as soon as possible**. They are available from Mrs Young or Mrs Coldicott in H4.
Mrs Coldicott

Merits

Congratulations go to the following students for successfully reaching 50 merits this term: Hannah Thorpe (8MGL), Michael Fisher (8HLE), Matthew Goodman, Sridevan Sithamprapillai, Ryan Dubbey and Holly White (8LRB), Emily Ghatauray, Jaimin Manji and Ahad Azad (8TM). Also congratulations to Lynda Walker and Taran Birdee (8TM) who have reached an impressive 100 merits. Well done and keep up the good work!
Mrs Kemp

Parents' Association News

DESPERATELY SEEKING VOLUNTEERS!

Your PA would be extremely grateful for any help from parents at two important school events due to take place this term.

Please email Ann: ann.mcgau@gmail.com as soon as possible confirming for which (or both) of the events listed below you can offer assistance, along with times available and a contact phone number.

Saturday 18th June

At the Sports Day/Summer Fayre, we are planning to run numerous stalls (refreshments, pitch and putt, Buy a Brick "shy", Megabowl mobile ten pin bowling and more). We want to operate shifts so that everybody can enjoy the day. Please let us know if you are willing to spare an hour between 10am and 3pm to help us man the stalls and ensure all runs smoothly.

Friday 15th July

For the Year 7 BBQ Diploma Celebration evening, we are looking for parents of students in Year 8 and above to lend a hand serving food, man the bar and/or generally helping to ensure things go smoothly. Any time you can spare between 7pm and 9.30pm would help enormously.

If you have already volunteered to assist at the above events, thank you – we will be in touch with you soon to confirm arrangements.

SUMMER FAYRE GRAND DRAW

Tickets for the Summer Fayre Grand Raffle Draw are coming home via school bags this week and we should be grateful for as much support as possible from parents in purchasing these tickets or selling them to friends, family, neighbours, work colleagues and other contacts. The more tickets sold, the more money raised to benefit the students at Bexley Grammar School.

Prizes include: £100 Bluewater Vouchers, family tickets for Adventure Island, Leeds Castle and Godstone Farm, signed Charlton Athletic FC goods, tickets for a Millwall FC 2011/2012 Season match and much more. Full details of the prizes available have been circulated this week via Parentmail.

BUY A BRICK - Update



A whopping £4,328.75 (including Gift Aid) has been raised already and this from a mere 67 families! Huge thanks to all who have donated. We are still fundraising for the new Sixth Form Centre build and forms are available in Reception or at the Buy a Brick Wall (pictured above).

MILLENNIUM CLUB – WINNERS!

Congratulations to our recent winners:

March:

Mr & Mrs Jackson - Year 7 (1st prize £20)

Valerie Elsey - Year 10 (2nd prize £15)

April:

Andy Ebdon - Year 7 (1st prize £20)

Mrs Faratro - Year 9 (2nd prize £15)

May:

Kerry Allen - Year 8 (1st prize £20)

Valerie Elsey – Year 10 (2nd prize £15)

Forms to join/renew in September will be issued via Parentmail later in the term – you will also be able to buy/renew your annual Millennium Club subscription at the Sports Day/Summer Fayre on Saturday 18th June. Any queries in the meantime, please email catherinejstock@hotmail.co.uk