



Forthcoming Events

Friday 11th September ~ Year 7 BBQ

Monday 21st September ~ School Photographs for Years 7, 9 & 12

Tuesday 22nd September ~ Year 7 Parents' Evening

Friday 25th September ~ INSET Day

Wednesday 30th September ~ Year 13 Parents' Evening

Tuesday 6th October ~ Parents' Association AGM

Wednesday 14th October ~ Year 11 Parents' Evening

Friday 16th October ~ Parents' Association Line Dancing Evening

Welcome Back

I am delighted to welcome you back to a new academic year at Bexley Grammar School. The new Year 7 students started on Monday looking very bright and eager to settle into the school; I am pleased at how confident and happy they appear. The most popular students in that year group at the moment seem to be the ones who can read a map for they are being followed from classroom to classroom by those who are less sure about this particular skill.

Last year's Year 11s have transformed into a very smart group of Sixth Form students who are eager to play leading positions in the school. We have some external students joining the school in Year 12 and these seem to be keen to fit in quickly and become key players in our school; I welcome this positive attitude knowing that time passes quickly and they will not have time to defer opportunities.

In the summer our results confirmed that we had sustained the progress we were aiming for during the past year. As the new Headmaster this was extremely pleasing and I believe that these results will give the school both the ambition and confidence to expect such high quality achievements in the future.

In Year 11 we had 223 students completing their GCSE exams this year. Between them they took 2587 examinations and averaged a grade almost exactly half way between an A and a B in them. Most students took 12 exams and 50.3% of all the grades were at A or A* which is a wonderful achievement. 95.7% of all exams were passed at A-C and 99.1% of students gained 5 A*-C grades including English and Mathematics. Nearly all students, 95.5%, gained 2 GCSE grades A*-C in Science. 96.9% gained at least one A*-C grade in a Language with most actually gaining two such subjects.



7 of our students gained 10 A* grades: Farhang Fazeli, Joshua Lansdell, Emily Austin, Harish Faulkner, Gursmeet Jhaj, Daniel Robinson and Oliver Hayes. This is a particularly spectacular result for Oliver

as he was terribly unwell during the past two years needing several operations which meant that he missed at least two terms of his studies. We are proud of all the Year 11 results this year but especially his result which he thoroughly deserves for staying so positive in the face of an unpleasant illness.



In Year 13 we achieved our best results ever this year with 69.9% of all grades at either A or B. Our 184 Year 13 students are delighted and most have been accepted onto their first choice university course. We had a 100% pass rate and students gained an average UCAS points score of 378 points.

52 students took the International Baccalaureate and they achieved an average points score of 34 points which is equivalent to 4 A grades at A Level. 3 of these students: Ben Simpson, Robert Ashcroft and John Remigus successfully gained places at Cambridge University.

Other IB students gained places at top universities and all of the IB students gained a university place. Of particular note is the fact that Mathew Enright gained a place at Warwick after achieving 37 points (equivalent to 4As + 1B) despite battling leukaemia during much of his secondary school life. We are all extremely proud of him for having such a positive attitude to life and his studies.

Megan Joyce and Ben Short both achieved 4 straight As in their A Level examinations while another 10 students gained at least 3 A grades. These students were also successful in gaining good university places and all but 4 are still to have university offers confirmed.

These results reflect the wonderfully positive attitude of our Year 13 students who not only studied hard but also led House activities, clubs, mentoring services and charitable events with incredible enthusiasm during their time in the Sixth Form. All the teaching staff are delighted that they have done so well; they thoroughly deserve their success.

During the year ahead I encourage all students to get themselves involved in extracurricular activities and to take advantage of opportunities that arise in school. Active students tend to be both high achieving and happy while at the same time they are building a catalogue of memories to carry forward with them. Positive memories need some nurturing and often effort.

Finally may I wish all students an enjoyable and fulfilling New Academic Year!

J Welsh
Headmaster

Notices

For **all** Year 7 girls ~ Netball Club after school on Monday 14th September. Meet on the Netball courts at 3.15 in kit

Hope to see you all there! Miss R Leffen

Mondays from 15:30–17:30 ~ British Sign Language Award One in M2 Starting Monday 14th September 2009

Please contact Mrs Karen Gianakakis at gianakakis_k@bexleygs.co.uk to confirm your place and course costing. For students and adults

Thursdays from 15:30–17:30 ~ Pre Stage Two and Deaf Blind Awareness Training in M2 Starting Thursday 10th/17th September 2009

Please contact Mrs Karen Gianakakis at gianakakis_k@bexleygs.co.uk to confirm your place and course costing. Only students/adults who have been interviewed by Ms Bobin can enter this course.