



Year News

Year 7

Well done to Harrison Bryans (AJS) on achieving 50 merits.
K Brown

Year 8

On the 19th, 20th and 22nd January the Year 8 students went on a school trip to the Horniman museum. There was a huge display of masks and the students were asked to do several drawings of different masks. However the museum was not all about masks; the students got to go to the aquarium where they were able to see many different types of fish (some students were able to see one fish eat another fish!). Overall the trip was a great success, apart from the two hour traffic jam on the 19th!
Thomas Jones 8SRN

Year 10

Congratulations to the boys' football team who beat Cleeve Park 3-1. Well done to George Hutton who scored 2 of the goals.

On Wednesday as part of ECM day we took part in Fit for Life and thoroughly enjoyed it. Some members of the year group took part in the Jack Petchey 'Speak Out' Challenge. Prizes for most improved speakers were awarded to me and Talia-Marie Powell. Congratulations to Summer Reynolds (runner up) and Naomi Wass (winner) who will now go on to represent our school in a Bexley competition at Chislehurst and Sidcup Grammar School on the 24th March. Good luck to both of them and everyone is welcome to show their support. Overall it was a good day for all Year 10s and has hopefully made everyone more confident about speaking.
Erin Bullions (10RHS)

Year 11

Hayley Gadd I1FF has successfully got through to the regional finals of the Live & Unsigned Act competition and will be competing in April to try and progress to the national final to represent her region and possibly win a recording contract. Well done Hayley, we all hope you do well!
Oyin Ebikeme & Selen Mindikoglu

Forthcoming Events

Monday 16th February ~ Half Term 1 week

Thursday 26th February ~ Y9 Parents' and Options Evening

Reports

Year 11 and Year 13 reports have been postponed until Friday 27th February.

Advance Notice:

Monday 23rd Feb 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

Y11 GCSE Double Science ~ Data Task

Monday 23rd Feb 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

Y11 GCSE Triple Science Physics ~ Science in the News task

Students will need to take lunch at period 5

News from the Parents' Association

Congratulations to the Millennium Club winners for January:

Angela Collison ball number 20 £18

Steve Stewart ball number 167 £14

The Parents' Association Boot Fair – 1st March

The PA has a range of school uniform available to purchase at the boot fair being held at the school on 1st March. The uniform is a mixture of unclaimed property and donated out grown items including blazers, jumpers, skirts, etc.

Please come along to support us and grab a bargain!

PA Quiz Night Social – Friday 6th March 7:30 in the School Hall

Please see the separate flyer for this event sent via ParentMail@. Students in Years 7-9 will receive a hard copy to bring home before half term.

Tickets are £5 per head or £36 for a table of 8. Please send cash or cheque using the return slip on the flyer (marked 'PA Quiz Night') to BGS PA, care of the Finance Office. All money raised will go towards our new fundraising targets for 2009/10: outdoor sports and entertainment equipment, specifically for use by students at break and lunchtime.

Careers Fair

On Tuesday 23rd June we will be holding a Careers Fair for Years 10 and 12, as part of this year's final ECM Day. The Careers Fair will run from about 10.30 am to 1.30 pm, with various universities and career areas represented, and we would be very glad to hear from any parents who might be able to take part, to represent their area of work. Students will be visiting the fair in groups at set times, to keep numbers manageable, and it will involve chatting to students who think they may be interested in your career, and perhaps bringing along some literature if any is available. A number of careers are always of interest to our students, such as law, medicine, business, sport, careers involving art & design, the music business, careers using foreign languages, journalism, careers involving science, engineering, the police, so representatives from these career areas would be particularly welcome. However, we are also keen to broaden students' horizons and give them the chance to find out about careers they have not thought of (or perhaps have not even heard of), so whatever your field of work, if you feel you might be able to get involved, please get in touch with Mrs Longman, Careers and Higher Education Adviser, on longman_p@bexleygs.co.uk, or 020 8304 8538, ext 313.

Thank you.

Mrs Longman

Books for Schools

Many thanks to all those who have given in the tokens from the Times and The Sunday Times. Please remember to keep the tokens over the half term and bring them in when we return.

Mrs McAllister (Librarian)

Words with international roots

Bevy (noun)

*A group; an assembly or collection
(Middle English)*

Public Speaking Competition at Beths Grammar School, Monday 9th February

After weeks of preparation, Aaron Eckelt, Harry Warwick, Michael Dickson and Jonathan Dias travelled to Beths School to take part in the borough public speaking competition, judged by the Mayor. The boys had chosen to speak on 'The Olympics. The political games?' and this topic had been well-researched; speeches were written and learnt by heart beforehand.

It was a busy evening with 7 schools competing and such diverse topics as 'Are non-conformists good for society' and 'Binge-drinking'. Our team went first and performed brilliantly without a trace of nerves. It was a long wait for the final judgement and when it came, Miss Fairbairn was outraged- we had not won!

Congratulations to Townley Grammar School who were the winning team.

Well done to those involved and a special thanks to Mr Morris for his help in coaching the team.

Music Quiz Night

Thanks to the parents and friends of pupils in the music department whose generosity raised approx £540 for the Venice fund.

It was very well supported with 14 tables and some fierce competition! The Year13s who compiled the rounds did a fantastic job. Some of the rounds were quite difficult - thanks to Robert Ashcroft and all present were impressed by Chris Hughes' photographic round.

David Foot was in charge of the scoring and had it all sewn up with lap top, projector and a spread sheet (copy requested for use in another school's upcoming quiz night).

The evening was a tie between the music staff table and a table of school science technicians.

Thanks to all the sixth form present for hosting the evening.

Mrs Snelling

Year 13 Film IB Presentations

Congratulations to all of the Film IB students who successfully completed their textual analysis presentations this week. We were both impressed by the students' thorough research and illuminating readings of their chosen film extracts. Well done!
Ms Hanington & Mr Scammell

Sixth Form Culture Club ~ Dancing at Lughnasa

Hurry, tickets are selling fast for this theatre visit on 11th March! This is an exciting opportunity to see a performance at the Old Vic Theatre in-the-round. Collect a letter from the English Office and take your slip and money to finance. Ms Hanington & Ms Stoddard

Swimming results

The Kent Secondary Schools swimming championship was held at the Black Lion leisure centre in Gillingham on the 24th and 31st January.

Nine swimmers from BGS competed over the two weekends competing in five finals and achieving six personal best times (pbt).

The results were as follows:

Ellie Aspill 5th (pbt) Senior Girls ~ 100m freestyle
Aimee Lockwood 2nd Junior Girls ~ 100m butterfly
Abbey Farmer-Hartley 10th Junior Girls ~100m breaststroke

Alex Picksley 6th Junior Boys ~ 100m butterfly
George Evans 8th Junior Boys ~ 100m backstroke
Jon Pitchford 10th (pbt) Junior Boys ~ 100m freestyle
Sam Shrimpton 7th (pbt) Junior Boys ~ 100m breaststroke
Fiona Hennessy 10th (pbt) Intermediate ~ 100m breaststroke

John, Sam, George and Alex were just touched out into 2nd place (pbt) by Tunbridge Wells School on both the 4x50m medley and freestyle relays.

Well done to all the swimmers and congratulations to Aimee Lockwood who has gained a place in the Kent Schools team when they swim against Surrey on Friday.

On Wednesday 4th February as part of ECM day we held a Japanese drumming workshop that lasted all day and gave students great insight into this little-known art form. It was very tiring but brilliant fun and the students did exceptionally well. The workshop leaders said:

"It is rare we get to work with such a brave, committed, energetic and polite group of children - a credit to your school."

Below are a few comments from students who took part in the sessions

On Wednesday 4th February during ECM Day when the rest of the year group were doing tasks such as Yoga and street dancing, several Japanese learning students took part in an all day session on Japanese Taiko drumming. It was an exciting day.

On ECM Day we learnt Japanese Taiko drumming. It was very strenuous but great fun. It was an amazing experience.

We did taiko drumming while the rest of our year group did relaxation and CV writing. It was brilliant fun and I'd love to do it again, but my arms sure did hurt. The best part was when it all came together and we performed, but now my arms hurt.



ECM Day ~ 4th February

Last Wednesday saw the school's third Every Child Matters day, with pupils again off timetable and working on a variety of tasks that enhance their personal skills and encourage them to work as a team and become safe, active and healthy members of society. Despite the very snowy weather, and the fact that school was closed on the Monday and Tuesday, so supplies for events such as cookery could not be delivered, and staff could not co-ordinate and pass information to pupils, the day went extremely well and pupils enjoyed the variety of events.

Mr Elphick took some excellent photos which show a lot of the events that were going on. These are available on the website (click on the Gallery button – ECM Days – ECM Day 3). Photos will soon be on display round the school; they are definitely worth a look!

Year 7 ~ Theme ~ reincarnation faiths

All Year 7 pupils spent the day working in form groups with guest speakers from the 3 faiths of Hinduism, Sikhism and Buddhism and FBCS staff. Pupils were able to gain first hand information about the faiths and enjoyed the opportunity these speakers gave for discussion and extended understanding.

Discussions with pupils have shown that they really benefited from the day, greatly extending their knowledge and understanding through music, art and geography.

Year 8 ~ Themes ~ anti-bullying and personal safety

Year 8 pupils spent part of the day considering the importance of cycle safety helmets. Pupils' responses have shown that they really enjoyed the lesson and the whole year group are now very aware of their personal safety. Many pupils found the videos very 'hard hitting', but enjoyed the 'egg' experiment.

Pupils also watched an anti-bullying theatre production and took part in group workshops. Again these were well received by pupils and the theatre company was a great hit.

Most pupils took a very mature attitude towards their feedback and have explained the benefits they have gained from the day. This is useful in future planning, so thank you.

Year 9 ~ Theme ~ Europa Town

All Year 9 pupils spent the day working across the languages department, both in Europa town and associated lessons. Pupils really enjoyed the day and valued the learning experience.

The drummers who provided a day of practice and a performance as part of the languages theme were absolutely superb, with both participants and the audience really enjoying the experience, and the performance being very professional.

Year 10 & 11 ~ Theme ~ 'fit for a day, fit for life'

Year 10 and 11 pupils enjoyed a variety of physical, mental, dietary and lifeskills lessons across the day. The many external presenters of the physical activity workshops were impressed by the majority of the pupils who entered into all activities fully and clearly enjoyed themselves. Judo, mental agility maths and Taekwondo were particular favourites with students, although street dance, belly dancing and personal health also ranked highly on pupils' evaluations.

Despite the problems with food deliveries due to the weather, pupils enjoyed their food lessons and the soups were especially good!

Some of the posters that were produced during the ICT healthy menu sessions are excellent and will be on display round the school soon.

Those pupils who spent the day on the Jack Petchey Challenge found the experience both enjoyable, emotionally moving and an excellent learning experience.

Some Duke of Edinburgh candidates spent the day with Mr Crawford practising the skills they need for their expeditions. Let's hope they don't need to pitch tents in the snow for real!

Sixth Form

Sixth Form pupils had a very varied day with students working to their strengths across a wide variety of subjects. Many language pupils spent the day working with Year 9 pupils in Europa Town and associated lessons.

The Peer Mentors were split, with some working with the Samaritans and Year 8, and others with Mrs Prescott and Year 10 on relaxation techniques.

Our thanks go to all sixth form pupils who helped out and enhanced the learning of other year groups.

Many Biology and Human Biology students went to the Bodyworlds exhibition which again was really enjoyed by all pupils. Other members of the year group spent time at Crook Log Sports Centre, where they took part in activities such as swimming, table tennis and 5-a-side football.

Finally, apologies for the long newsletter entry, but pupils achieved a great deal on the day, whilst having fun, and many of the issues raised, skills learned and new experiences tried will enhance many and broaden pupils' knowledge on a variety of issues, leading to a safer, healthier and more active lifestyle.

But, none of this would happen without the goodwill and hard work of all staff, so a very big thank you to all staff involved.

Ms Rock