



Cabaret Night

Wednesday 3rd & Thursday 4th June

Next month Key stage 3 and 4 pupils will present a night of devised drama, comedy sketches and extracts from published plays.

On Wednesday 3rd June there is an early start at 4.30 pm. Chairs will be in rows and the show will be over by 7pm. On Thursday 4th there will be a 6.30 pm start and tables will be set up and you are encouraged to bring a picnic and drinks. There will also be prizes available on the night in a special competition.

Tickets are available for £2.50 from the Finance Office.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Mr Otley

Forthcoming Events

Friday 22nd May ~ Year 9 and Year 10 Reports issued

Monday 25th May ~ Half Term for 1 week

Monday 1st June ~ Return to School

Saturday 13th June ~ Sports Day & Summer Fayre

Monday 15th June ~ School closed (except for exams)

Visit to Imperial College

On Wednesday the 29th April, several physics students and I went along to Imperial College for an afternoon on Material Physics. It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience in which we participated in practical sessions, using equipment that students at the university use during their course. Hands-on activities included using an electron microscope, putting squash balls in liquid nitrogen, breaking glass rods and making a wire regain its original shape by passing a current through it. Although it was only a brief encounter of the material kind, we all felt it gave us an insight into the world of material physics. I would just like to thank Mr Brewer for organising the trip and Mr Calladine for taking us. Martin Hart 12NJR

Japanese Language Programme

Two of our Year 13 students applied for the Japan Foundation's 2009 Japanese Language Programme for High School Students. This programme offers only two UK students of Japanese the opportunity to join other high school students of Japanese from around the world, and spend two weeks at the Japan Foundation Japanese Language Institute in Kansai, Japan this summer.

Both Rebecca Whitter and Nick Ung applied and both were shortlisted. Once shortlisted they were given a phone interview - most of which was held in Japanese. Both Rebecca and Nick did extremely well, but it was Nick who was the successful candidate in the end. He can now look forward to 2 weeks of studying Japanese in Japan this July. Well done to both Rebecca and Nick for doing so well and we hope that Nick will enjoy his time immensely this summer. We look forward to hearing all about it.

Miss Cox, Miss Yamamoto & Mrs Everett

Oxbridge Conference - Year 12

On Monday 20th April, Bexley Grammar hosted an Oxbridge Conference inviting eighty-three high-achieving Year 12 students from six schools within Bexley LEA and further afield in Kent. The day commenced with a rousing game of University Challenge, with the contestants being former BGS students who are now Undergraduates at Oxford: Jeremy Solly, Michael Johnson, Lewis Anderson and Darren Mills. With our very own Mr Johnson playing the part of Jeremy Paxman, "the heat was certainly on". The panel shared their own experiences in applying for Oxbridge and we had the chance to quiz them intensely on University life, courses, academic work and social life, teaching and seminars and accommodation and finance. We then split into groups according to our

prospective courses and potential degree disciplines to discuss the content of our personal statements, with particular focus on what additional activities it would be beneficial to pursue. 'What was the most useful piece of advice from the session?' I hear you cry. *Do things that relate to your subject and demonstrate your passion for it.* We each received resources suggesting additional activities and opportunities beyond the confines of the curriculum and attempted an unseen activity that we might experience at an interview.

Then our focus shifted to the interview process, with a talk by Caroline Clark from "Speaker's Bank". Students were brave enough to face a mock interview for Law in front of the whole group. Particular attention was paid to body language, eye contact, tone of voice and conveying your personality to the interviewers as well as demonstrating enthusiasm for the subject.

Perhaps the most useful session in the day came after lunch; a talk with the Oxbridge Admissions Tutors provided a chance to get in all those last-minute queries and gain an expert's view of applying to a particular field. Also, it was a good opportunity to get contact details and Open Day dates. If you want any information, just see Mr Johnson. Our thanks must go to him for organising the day, it was a valuable experience and a great success!

Alex D'Sa (12NJR)

Elections

Year 7 are currently looking at 'Democracies and Dictatorships' in their PSHCE sessions. As part of this they are conducting an election which will result in one of them becoming 'Director of Studies' for a day!

In small groups within their forms, they choose a leader and decide on which policies they would like to implement e.g. no homework for the day. Following hustings, a secret ballot is held with the winner going forward to the inter-form vote. Who will seize power? Watch this space!

Year 7

Change of Date

The Year 12 IB Oral commentaries for English will be held on Thursday 2nd July. Miss Ramsden

Classics Department trip to Turkey February 2010

The Classics Department are offering another trip during February half term in 2010 to Turkey. On this trip students will get to see the ancient sites of Troy, Ephesus, Pamukkale and Pergamum. We will also spend time in Istanbul and the war fields of Gallipoli. Year 10, 11 and 12 students are encouraged to get a letter from the Latin office and pay the deposit before the 3rd June to secure their place on the trip.

Miss Pearson

Summer Fayre Request

10RJS were wondering if anyone had any small items of bric-a-brac they should like to donate for use in this year's lucky dip. Prizes last year included small toy cars, small bags of sweets, old sun glasses etc. If anyone has any old items we should be very grateful if you could put them in the box, marked Summer Fayre, located at the back of M18. Thank you.

Thank You

Thanks to all who have been sending in the tokens from The Times. The library has just received a delivery of 9 FREE books. Keep sending the tokens in so we can get even more.

Mrs McAllister

Event of Interest

A Fathers' Club in Kent have teamed up with guest speakers from Prospects, National Autistic Society to run an event for parents on 19th May at 7pm to talk about Employment opportunities for young people with Autism. David Perkins, Manager of Prospects Employment Service of NAS, is going to talk about what Prospects does, and specifically what parents might be able to do for their children. The venue is Bower Grove School, Fant Lane, Maidstone, Kent ME16 8NL. Please contact John Franklin by email on john_e_franklin@hotmail.com to book your place.

Merits

Congratulations to Amy Braisted in 7PKS who has achieved 50 merits. Her name will be added to the draw for an iPod.