



## House Drama

Yet again House Drama proved to be a great representation of the school's talent. The event got off to a great start with Collins wonderful take on Robin Hood which, for the first time in the history of House Drama, included a live band. The Houses that followed were equally good. Kirkman took the audience back to childhood with their comical version of Little Red Riding Hood which also included fairytales such as Hansel and Gretel, Jack and the Beanstalk and Cinderella. Johnson continuously kept the audience amused with their 'Murder Mystery' with a twist: amusing impressions of Mr Costar, Mr Welsh, Mr Joe and Mr Brewer. Prothero, on the other hand, provided a more musical performance of the well known theatre production Wicked which entertained as well as amazed the audience with their breathtaking, well thought out costumes. The audience were given a modern performance by Mabbs and their 'Story of Mickey Jackson' which featured many well known songs from the late Michael Jackson (from 'Smooth Criminal' to 'Black or White') and a fantastic dance routine taken from the legendary 'Thriller' video. Similarly, Wellman touched upon a modern, controversial issue, plastic surgery, with their futuristic play which certainly raised many questions. After all Houses performed it was up to Mrs Gibbs and Mr Brewer to decide which House was to be crowned winner of House Drama 2009.

With the decision being based upon 'originality of ideas and quality of presentation' the results were as follows: in sixth place came Mabbs, in fifth was Johnson, Collins took fourth place, at third place was Wellman, proudly at second place was Kirkman and the overall winner was Prothero! The event proved to be a successful one and from where I was standing one which the entire school most certainly enjoyed.

Sarah Ajai – Year 13

Please note: The school is planning a House Showcase Event on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2010 which will feature the winning House Drama piece and possibly the runner-up. Look out for details nearer the time.

Also, please see the Gallery photos under Events – House Drama 09...



## Artsmark Gold Award

Mrs Wieck kindly attended the presentation ceremony for the Artsmark Gold Award on behalf of Bexley Grammar School last Tuesday at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on the South Bank. Mrs Wieck reported feeling proud to receive this recognition as there were very few secondary schools from the South East region who had achieved the prestigious Gold Award. It recognises our commitment to all the arts, including the performing arts. Congratulations to all! Mr Elphick

## Primary Europa Town 2009

Last week Primary Europa Town ran in the School Hall. Over the course of 4 days, over 1,000 children from local primary schools came to Bexley Grammar to visit 'Europa Town'. They had the opportunity to buy products from stalls (in French or Spanish), watch a puppet show and enjoy some food and drink at our 'café'. We were also pleased to welcome a group of Year 8, 9 and 11 students from Marlborough Park School.

The event was run largely by 6<sup>th</sup> Form language students who worked behind the stalls and held conversations in French and Spanish with the visiting children. A big thank you to all of the students involved in running this with such enthusiasm and making it such a successful event. Miss Saunders

## International Baccalaureate

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October Bexley Grammar was pleased to welcome a small group of International Baccalaureate students from George Green School in Tower Hamlets. The students followed our timetable for the day, joining lessons and contributing to discussions. Both sets of students said afterwards that they felt that they had benefitted from the experience and it is hoped that we might run a similar day for our Year 12 IB students in the future. Mr Brown

## Jeans for Genes

We have had another fantastic response to one of our regular charity fund raising events. Our school has managed to raise an incredible £1,413.06. This exceeds what was raised last year and shows the continued generosity of everyone in school despite the difficult financial climate. Well done everyone!

## Commendation

Congratulations to Gina Bobin, our BSL teacher, on receiving a commendation from the Commissioner of the London Metropolitan Police, Sir Paul Stephenson at a recent presentation ceremony, for setting up the deaf links scheme at Lewisham Police Station.

## Year 7 News

Well done to all Year 7s! Think of what you've accomplished in a half term! Meeting teachers, dealing with more homework, getting to class on time, remembering where to sit etc.. For that I think you deserve the week you've got off school!

We want to congratulate Form 7LKS for their wonderful assembly about Halloween! And wish good luck to the other Year 7 forms in their assemblies. Farewell, and have a good half term. Happy Halloween!  
Peter Smith, 7LKS

## Clubs

**All after school clubs including Homework club will be cancelled on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November due to staff inset.**

Culture Club ~ Ms Hanington and Ms Stoddard are eagerly looking out for more Culture Club opportunities for the second half of this term, and hope that more 6<sup>th</sup> formers will be joining us. In the meantime, here is a review of most of our activities this half term (we also went to see Shakespeare's 'Cymbeline'):

This term culture clubbers have had the privilege of seeing quite a number of exciting plays, such as 'Mother Courage', 'Inherit the Wind', and 'School for Scandal'. 'Mother Courage', by Brecht, is an excellent example of Brecht's unique style, whilst 'Inherit the Wind' provided a thrilling insight into the clash of creationism and Darwinism found in the Deep South. 'School for Scandal' was a much more intimate play based on gossip and scandal, as the title suggests. It was wonderfully over the top and was a pleasure to watch even for those who are not generally fans of theatre.

Culture Club is perfect for anyone looking for a fun evening out, and so we hope to see many new Culture Clubbers next term.

Josh Lansdell & Diana Matthews

BSL ~ After half term the British Sign Language class will start unit 102 for any wishing to take or retake the exam. This is for both the student and adult classes and students from Summer School. Places are on a first come first served basis. Ms Bobin

Senior Book Club ~ We will be meeting to discuss 'The French Lieutenant's Woman' by John Fowles on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November in M4 period 6. If you enjoyed either 'The Collector' by the same author or 'Tess of the D'Urbervilles' by Hardy you will love this book. Come and join us for lively discussion and cake. Old and new members welcome.

Mrs Macleod

Archery Club ~ This has been cancelled after half term until 26th November.

## Sports News

Girls' Football ~ The under 14s beat Harris Academy 24-0 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of the Kent Cup. They played a newly formed side and again displayed a brilliant exhibition of football. Player of the Match was Charlotte Long. They now have to play Northfleet or Longfield Academy in the 4<sup>th</sup> round.  
Mrs Haslam

Year 9 and 10 Netball ~ The Year 9 and 10 Netball teams got off

to a flying start when they went to Bexleyheath School last week. Both teams played fantastically with great interceptions being made throughout play. The Year 9 team won 36- 0 in a fast and skilful game by BGS girls with 'Girl of the Match' going to Winnie Lam, who showed great passing and movement skills. The Year 10s also played very well winning 23-1. Charlotte Good was named as 'Girl of the Match' for her excellent movement skill. Well done girls on a double victory, let's keep it up!  
Miss Leffen

## Notices

Guitar lessons will start after half-term. There is now an "instrumental lessons" room on Fronter, where students can download their timetables for the term. All students should have access to it, but if you don't come and let me know!

Miss Swadkin

Important Meeting for Easter 2010 Ski Trip ~ There is a compulsory meeting for all those going on the Easter Ski Trip to Les Arcs on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm in the Main Hall. Can you please ensure that you bring a pen and the name, address and telephone number of your son/daughter's Doctor. The meeting will include a presentation from 'Snow Punk' the company who are offering ski clothing and hire clothing for the trip, as well as other vital information regarding the trip. If anyone is unable to attend can they let me know as soon as possible. Students can come in their own clothes to the meeting.  
Mr Boyle

'Big Switch Off' campaign starts on 2nd November until 13th November. This is to encourage everyone to switch off lights and appliances when not in use.

Visit: [www.jointhepod.org/switchoff](http://www.jointhepod.org/switchoff) for more information.

Mrs Wieck

## Academic Council

Top tips for Year 13s writing their personal statements:

1. University websites and their admissions tutors often give helpful advice on what they are looking for in a personal statement.
2. Check, check and check again! Inaccuracies in spelling, punctuation and grammar are taken into consideration by universities.
3. Remember the limit is 4000 characters including spaces (check this is correct when inserting it into UCAS!)  
Good luck!

Quote of the week:

"Four steps to achievement:

Plan purposefully,

Prepare prayerfully,

Proceed positively,

Pursue persistently." - William Arthur Ward

Read here next week to find more student learning help and guidance from the Academic Council, for all years!