



Arts Council Award

'Singin' in the Rain' – last year's school production – has won three awards at the annual Bexley Arts Council Awards, which took place on Saturday 24th September at the Edward Alderton Theatre, Bexleyheath. We are thrilled to receive the Knowles Cup for Youth Theatre, a certificate of merit for musical excellence, and the "most promising young performer" award for Jessica Coller who memorably played the 'vocally challenged' Lina Lamont! The show was also highly praised for its professional feel, the slick scene changes and integration of live action and film, and for the charismatic leading actors, not to mention the energetic and uplifting performances from the chorus.

Congratulations to everyone who was involved, and I can't wait to begin next year's show!

Ms Medicott



Shakespeare School's Festival Workshop, Greenwich Theatre

Over the past few months a 30 man cast has been working on the production of Shakespeare's Twelfth Night, in preparation for the final performance on the 31st October. Students from Years 8-11 have come together to participate in this annual event.

On September 26th, the full cast along with Mr Otley, Miss Palmer and Miss Bartlett, via the train and DLR to the Greenwich Theatre for a workshop with the National Youth Theatre as part of the festival. We arrived and met two directors who led the workshop. The workshop consisted of a few enjoyable games, concentrating on choral movements and focus. For example, we were all walking around the room swiftly, and as soon as one of the men said stop, we had to stop in synchronisation. In addition, we did a few activities to make us focus on the person we were performing with. The aim of all this was to make us feel like a company of actors and show the importance of team work in theatre.

We then performed a section of Twelfth Night to a group of students from the Bexley Business Academy, who were also part of the workshop. The directors and BBA gave us constructive feedback, but were very impressed overall. We also gave targets to BBA to help them with their performance. We finished the day with a glimpse of the stage where we will be performing in about a month's time, starting a spark of excitement between the cast.

Everyone agreed that it was a productive and enjoyable day and that we will bring what we have learnt with us when we perform at Greenwich Theatre on Monday 31st October.

Olivia Smith 10MPL

If you wish to buy tickets to see Twelfth Night and three other plays at Greenwich Theatre, as part of the Shakespeare Schools Festival, they can be purchased from the 'Book Now' section of the website: <http://ticketing.greenwichtheatre.org.uk/> or by calling 0208 858 4447.

Mr Otley

Genes in Jeans Day

To start the 2011 – 2012 BGS Charity Events, we shall be holding Genes in Jeans day next Friday (7th October), but it'll be slightly different to how we've done it before! Students will be allowed to wear their own clothes for the day, but are encouraged to wear jeans (or a denim skirt) and their House colours and everyone needs to pay £1 – unless you'd rather come to school in uniform!

Form tutors will be collecting your £1 next week – so please bring in your money, and make sure you're ticked on the paid list! Unlike previous years, the money we raise during the day will be split between 3 charities:

Jeans for Genes: <http://www.jeansforgenesday.com/>

Cystic Fibrosis Trust: <http://www.cftrust.org.uk/>

Spina Bifida Association:

<http://www.spinabifidaassociation.org/>

The lists will be used to indicate your choice of charity.

To decide how to split the money we raise, everyone in the form group will get one vote for one of the three charities: Once you've paid your £1, you can vote!

Mr Harris

News from the Parents' Association

Quiz Night Friday October 7th ~ Last Chance to Book

We hope you're getting your brains in training for our quiz night next Friday, October 7th. We expect this event to be very popular as always with parents, students (we want to see some sixth-formers back again!) and staff. So although we've extended the booking deadline to next Tuesday October 4th, we advise you to get your booking form into the finance office without delay! The booking form is attached to the previous quiz night Parentmails sent out earlier in September. If you need another copy please email ann.mcgau@gmail.com

This is a friendly, relaxed night, with spot prizes and a fantastic raffle. You can either put together your own table of 8, or we'll match you up with others to make a table. Individual tickets cost £5 or book a table of 8 for £38. We're sure you'll agree it's great value for a fun-packed Friday evening. Bring your own drinks and snacks. If you have any questions about quiz night (other than what the questions are going to be!) call Ann on 0771 0099635.

Year 7 Barbeque

There was a fantastic turnout of parents and students at last Friday's Year 7 barbeque and a good time was had by all. The event raised over £1500!

Raffle prizes were kindly donated by Cullen & Co, Welling; Caseys, Blackfen and Blackfen Cards & Gifts. Many thanks to them and to all who helped make the event happen.

AGM and next PA meeting: October 13th

A reminder that BGSPA's Annual General Meeting and PA meeting are coming up on Thursday 13th October in the sixth form centre, starting at 7.30pm. We will extend a warm welcome to anyone who is able to come along.

Elections for officers for the 2011/2012 academic year will be held at the meeting and the five officer positions available are: Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Deputy Secretary. Nominations for officer roles should be submitted in advance of the AGM using the nomination form attached to the AGM Parentmail sent out on September 20th. If you still need a copy of the nomination form please email ann.mcgau@gmail.com. Consideration might be given to late nominations in exceptional circumstances. Please return the completed slips as soon as possible, either to Lesley Triggs via the school reception or preferably to the BGSPA secretary by email: ann.mcgau@gmail.com

If you want further information about what is involved in being an officer member, please speak to our chair Martha Gowans on 07798 626555 or our secretary Ann McGauran on 07710 099635.

Dress code alert!

Finally we want to allay any anxieties you may have about what to wear to the PA's Bollywood dinner dance on 25 November. The dress code is either posh togs (no jeans!) or traditional Indian, as you will. Any queries? Contact Helen at mitchell_helen@hotmail.co.uk

PE Results

19/09 Year 7 Boys' Football Away v St Bonaventure's (English Schools FA Cup, Round 1) ~ 6-1 loss, player of the match - Teddy French

19/09 Year 11 Boys' Football Away v Prendergast Ladywell Fields College (English Schools FA Cup, Round 1) ~ 8-1 win, (scorers: Harvey Marsden, Lauxshuman Balaratnam, George Irving (2), Rob Burgess, Jamie Swetman, Rory Hurley, Tino Mutasa) player of the match - Rob Burgess

20/09 Year 8 Boys' Football Home v Darrick Wood (Kent Cup, Round 1) ~ 3-1 win (scorers: Chukwuadinula), player of the match - Chris Atkinson

20/09 Year 10 Boys' Football Away v Bonus Pastor (Kent Cup, Round 1) ~ 2-4 win (Whittington, Luck (2), Faratro), player of the match – Bailey Whittington

20/09 Year 11 Girls' Football away v Mayfield Grammar School (Kent Cup, Round 1) ~ 2-7 win (Long (4)...), player of the match – Charlotte Long

21/09 Year 8 Rugby Home v Trinity (Friendly) ~ 36-31 win

21/09 Year 10 Rugby Home v Trinity (Friendly) ~ 65-0 win

21/09 Year 10 Netball Away v BBA (League) – 1-25 win, player of the match – Celine Dodd

21/09 1st XI Football Away v St Gregory's (Kent League) ~ 0-2 win (scorers: Costello-Bromwich, Sowah), player of the match – Harry Cullum (Year 12)

22/09 Year 10 Rugby Home v Borden Grammar School (Kent Cup) ~ 26 – 22 win

22/09 Year 9 Boys' Football v Oasis Academy (English Schools FA Cup, Round 1) ~ 1-4 loss (scorer: Jake Try), player of the match - Ryan Dubbey

On Tuesday 20th September, the U-16's girls' football team, consisting of Year 10/11s, played their first match in the Kent cup against Gravesend Grammar. Playing well throughout both halves, we won 7-2 with some excellent football on display. Well done to Charlotte Long who was awarded player of the match, scoring 4 goals in the process. Well done to everyone who played, and we look forward to the next round. *Charlotte Harris, 11CJA*

Parent Briefing

Tuesday 4th October 6.00 pm – 7.30 pm

BGS Self Evaluation and Improvement Planning Briefing to Parents

If you would like to know more about the school's plans for the coming year and our decision making processes please come along.

Email triggs_l@bexleygs.co.uk to register your intention to attend.

Rugby

I'm pleased to report an excellent start to the year for our rugby teams. Four wins from four matches so far, including one of the best matches seen at Bexley Grammar from any of our rugby teams. Our Year 8s earned a hard fought win against Trinity, which should prepare them well for their Met-Kent cup final against Hayes school on Monday 10th October. The new Year 7 team performed very well in their first match, which was a training game away at Trinity, where they won 25-20. For many it was their first ever game of rugby and they acquitted themselves excellently. Well done.

Special mention should be reserved for our Year 10s, who played two games in two days, winning both and producing an incredibly impressive performance in beating Borden Grammar School 26-22 in the provisional round of the Kent Schools Shield. It was an outstanding demonstration of bravery and skill, against arguably superior opponents, and was a richly deserved win. *Mr Lines*

Forthcoming Events

Thursday 6th October ~ Year 11 Parents' Evening

Friday 7th October ~ Genes in Jeans Day

Friday 7th October ~ PA Quiz Night

Thursday 13th October ~ PA AGM

Monday 24th- Friday 28th October ~ Half Term