



A truly inspirational start to the week!

The Year 8 speaking and listening competition drew to a close on Monday in the most spectacular form! Eight brave, articulate and engaging individuals presented confidently to their year group competing for the prized Speaking and Listening trophy.

Congratulations to all of the finalists: Joshua Hall, Alfie Wheeler, Robert Grogan, Sheryce Brown, Menaka Santhakumar, Emeka Newman, George Fuller, Chloe Grewal and Ella Tournes.

The students spoke passionately about their material and covered topics such as dreams, cricket, manners, war, the economy and refugees, with the year group and the judges hanging on their every word. The judges had to make an extremely difficult decision in deciding the winner. However, after much time and deliberation Meneka Santhakumar was given first place for her thought provoking speech on refugees. Emeka Newman came second after a well-paced and confident presentation on manners and finally Chloe Grewal received the third place accolade presenting with a beautiful tone to her voice about her chosen subject, dreams.

Well done to all!

Mrs Howard

Work Experience

Year 10 students have begun preparing for their Work Experience. This will take place at the start of Year 11 (from 22nd to 26th October 2012).

On ECM Day 3, Tuesday 31st January, students began exploring the vital skills that they can develop whilst on work experience, possible employers to approach, as well as working on CVs and letters of applications.

A number of students were engaged in other activities and consequently could not attend these sessions, so an information pack has been sent home, and these particular students will be given further information on Friday 10th February, with an additional catch-up session available after school on Monday 20th February. All Year 10 students should begin applying for work experience placements as soon as possible.

If you have any queries about work experience or if you/your employer may be able to offer a placement to a Bexley Grammar School student please contact Mrs Aspill or Mrs Longman on workexperience@bexleygs.co.uk

PA Johnson (Director of Studies Year 10)

Forthcoming Events

Monday 6th February ~ Year 9 Options and Parents' Evening

Thursday 9th February ~ PA Wine Tasting Evening

Monday 13th – Friday 17th February ~ Half Term

Tuesday 21st February ~ Year 10 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 22nd February ~ PA Meeting

School Games

Bexley Rowing Competition

On 25th January, 10 students took part in the Bexley Indoor Rowing championships at Erith School. First to take part were the Year 11s who were under pressure to set the standard for the rest of the team. They did very well – Luke Francis came 4th and I came 6th.

Hoping to maintain the standard set, the Year 10s did even better with Jamie Grain coming 2nd and Lucy Chapman coming 5th. Next came the Year 9s who did superbly – Christian Nyamali came 1st and Romilly Bobby was 4th.

Having watched the rest of the team do fantastically well, the Year 8s did amazingly, with Maddison Wright coming in 3rd and Josh Hall coming in 2nd. Finally the Year 7s, who had never rowed before, had to dig deep against stiff competition, with Kaetochi Nwankwo coming 10th and Jake Emeny-Smith coming 8th.

After the single races came the team relay and thanks to everyone's best efforts, a well thought out team order and the support of Mr Bains we were placed 5th. But the icing on the cake was when the boys came top, winning gold for BGS and the girls' team finished 4th.

Overall, BGS finished 2nd out of the 12 schools that entered. It was a fantastic event and I hope next year we do even better!

Millicent Bobby, IICAS

Meal Deal

Tuesday 7th February ~ Spaghetti Bolognese for 1p
(normal price is £1.70).



Kent Schools Cross Country Championships

Bailey Stickings (Year 9) competed in the Kent Schools Cross Country Championships on 14th January at Kent College, Canterbury. Bailey was competing for Bexley in the Junior Boy age group and achieved 4th place out of 79 competitors.

He was the first Bexley athlete and helped the team achieve 2nd place. Following this event, Bailey has been selected to represent Kent Schools against Berkshire, Essex, Hampshire, Surrey and Sussex at Gloucester Park, Basildon, Essex this weekend 4th February.

Mr Rosenthal

Merits

Congratulations to the following students on reaching 50 merits this term; Beatrice Thabet (7RAH), Riya Das, Alex Omotosho, Oliver Hassan, Moya Akinmoju, Nakhil Chana, Olivia Ironmonger, James Crumpton, Daniel Vuong, Adam Ritson, Ijaz Fayaz (7CJW), Colin Omorodion, Eleanor Jenkins, Bethany Blackie and Francesca Bird (7MYL).

Chloe Dominy, Sapphira McBride, Eva Williams all have received 100 merits. All fantastic achievements. Well done to all.

Mr Pullen

Valentine's Day Show Your Colours!

Our next non-uniform day is scheduled for the last day of this half-term; **Friday 10th February**. Like previous charity days, we are asking all staff and students to pay £1 to wear non-uniform for the day, and similarly we shall be collecting a vote from everyone to split the money between different charities.

Like our previous charity days this year, we are going to split the money between the following charities: [Greenwich & Bexley Community Hospice](#), [Cancer Research UK](#), [MacMillan Cancer Support](#) and [Marie Curie Cancer Care](#). (Please click on the links for more details.) However, following a request made to the Junior Student Council, there will also be an option on the voting sheet to "split your £1" evenly between all 4 charities.

Students will also be encouraged to wear the colours of their favourite charity:

Greenwich & Bexley Hospice: Light blue

Cancer Research UK: Dark blue

MacMillan Cancer Support: Green

Marie Curie Cancer Care: Yellow

A mixture (or not telling!): Pink

Voting sheets and collection forms will be with form tutors soon, and if any parents, guardians or staff would like to make an additional donation to any of these charities, please feel free to put it in an envelope and give it to the Finance Office in school, with the name of the charity clearly stated on the front; this will be sent with our donations at the end of February.

Many thanks.

Mr Harris