



Bexley  
Grammar  
School

# NEWSLETTER

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2010

[www.bexleygs.co.uk](http://www.bexleygs.co.uk)



Rehearsing for 'Guys and Dolls'

The school production – *Guys and Dolls* – will be performed next week from Tuesday to Friday at 7pm in the Hall. Tickets are selling fast, so please get your orders in as soon as possible. If you have misplaced the letter, your son/daughter can pick one up from reception or a copy of the letter can be found on the website under 'Letters Home'. Alternatively send a note to the Finance Office giving the name and form of your child, along with details of how many tickets you want and for which night. Tickets are priced at £5 for adults and £3 for concessions, cheques should be made payable to Bexley Grammar School.

## Review of the Year 8 trip to the Horniman museum

On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010, forms 8MJR and 8MPL embarked on a fantastic trip to the Horniman Museum. On two previous days the four other Year 8 forms had also visited. Once there, we had some amazing experiences, including seeing and holding some rare puppets from around the world, looking at stuffed animals and even seeing exotic fish.

We feel that the most interesting exhibits were the ones of stuffed animals. They looked so real and alive. Even though they were motionless, they seemed as though they were about to jump from their casing and straight at you! Situated right in the middle of the hall stood a large tusked walrus looking strong and powerful. We looked at many different animals (even a dodo!!), but the majestic eagle and the large wolf head had to be the most thrilling! We spent ages drawing these wonderful creatures.

Next, there was the aquarium. These rooms held all sorts of wonderful and beautiful fish in different blurs of colours. Everyone's favourite was the amazing, white jellyfish that danced gracefully in their tank of blue. It was difficult to get near them as all the other people were packed so densely around them!

We then moved on to the Asian and African section where there were loads of precious artefacts including masks and shields all brightly decorated. It was really interesting to know the cultural meanings behind these items. Yet again, we all enjoyed drawing these objects.

As well as the other rooms, there was also a wonderful room full of tribal items such as head dresses and different coloured masks. We spent ages in this room as there was so much choice as to what magnificent artefact we were going to draw!

Overall, we felt privileged to have been able to study and draw some of these rare, cultural and amazing artefacts. We would love to share the experience with family as it is one that should not be missed! We would very much like to go again one day to study in more depth.

Jack Barton and Harrison Bryans 8MJR

## Year 9 Parents' Evening

The Year 9 Parents' Evening is being held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. This will provide an opportunity for you to discuss your son/daughter's progress and be able to discuss option choices with subject teachers. Mrs Sword, Mr Handscombe and I will be available for any questions you may have on the process. Further to this, the options booklets will be distributed to students on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February.

Miss Squires

### Forthcoming Events

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February ~ Year 9 and Year 10 Reports issued

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February ~ Year 10 Parents' Evening

9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> February ~ *Guys and Dolls*

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February ~ Year 13 Reports issued

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February ~ Half Term

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February ~ Year 9 Parents' Evening

Will Peat (Careers Adviser from Prospects Connexions) will be available at Year 9 Parents' Evening. If you would like to discuss Year 9 options with him, please ask your son/daughter to make an appointment by going to see Mrs Longman (in the Careers Office at the far end of the Library).

## 'An Inspector Calls'

On 29th January 30 students from Year 10 travelled up to the Wyndham Theatre to see 'An Inspector Calls'. The show was a stunning mix of tension and aspects of a 'great whodunit' which left the whole theatre amazed. The students especially wish to thank the teachers, Miss Woodcock, Miss Edmundson, Ms Stoddard and Mrs Snelling who accompanied them on the trip. We would also like to thank the theatre staff and actors for a truly thrilling experience.

Alex Davies Year 10

## Kent Swimming

Congratulations to all those who competed in the Kent Schools' Swimming Championships last Saturday. Well done to Alex Picksley for his 2nd place in the 200m Individual Medley, George Evans for his 6th Place in the final of the 100m backstroke, and John Pitchford for his 7th in the 100m freestyle. The boys also came fourth in the freestyle relay narrowly missing out on the medals and 6th in the medley relay.

The junior boys also competed very well despite being a year younger. Jamie Grain came 6th in the 200m individual medley, George Luck was 17th in the 100m freestyle and Freddy Evans was 10th in the 100m backstroke. In both the relays the boys came 12th with Josh Minchin making the fourth member of the relay. The team spirit throughout was fantastic and all looks good for next year's championships.

The girls also performed well with Abby Farmer-Hartley coming 5th in the 100m backstroke in a time of 1.19.64, being touched out by 3 other girls who also finished with a time of 1.19, with competition being really tight.

Aimee Lockwood had a fantastic time in the pool coming

## PA Quiz Night – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March School Hall

7.00pm for 7.30pm start

*It's Quiz Night time – come along and have fun!*

*One of our most popular events, so don't delay,  
book your tickets today c/o the Finance Office.*

*£36 for a table of 8 or £5 per head*

*(cheques payable to 'Bexley Grammar School PA').*

*Further details to follow via ParentMail*

## Academic Council

After feedback from students about improvements for the Library and how it is used, the Academic Council has formed a new sub-group of its members which meets on a weekly basis with Mrs McAllister to discuss exciting changes to the Library. These could include: book sales for second hand textbooks/revision guides (a great way for older students to make some cash... and younger students to purchase at discount prices!), a new section for syllabus-specific material, and many more ideas to benefit student learning. So watch this space!

### Quote of the week:

*"If we always do what we've always done, we will get what we've always got."* - Adam Urbanski

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

first in her heats and then 1<sup>st</sup> in the final to become Kent Champion at 100m Butterfly, with a very impressive time of 1.09.59 smashing her previous PB by 4 seconds.

Well done to all the competitors and a massive thank you to Denise Green for her tireless effort and help with the event. I would also like to thank the parents for travelling to Gillingham and spending their Saturday there.

Mr Boyle

## Year 8 Rugby

The boys continued their winning ways comprehensively dispatching Trinity 39 – 0. The boys played the first half with real aggression and a desire to win, closing the half 27 – 0 up. The second half saw them take their foot off the gas pedal and as a result performance dipped giving Trinity a flicker of hope. Fortunately this was snuffed out, by some ferocious tackling from Charlie Fanning and Dominic Smyth, both playing their debut games. Well done to the entire squad of 20 boys, there will be games to follow so practice is essential, however, in this game Charlie Parker runs out as player of the match, with Kwame Opoku close at his heels.

Mr Boyle

## Merits

Congratulations go to Daniel Hale and Zohrain Javed 7MGL who have successfully reached 100 merits and already achieved a distinction for this section of the diploma. Well done boys and keep up the good work.

Congratulations also go to Monika Faulkner and Ryan Dubbey 7LRB who have reached 50 merits and are on a merit for the diploma! Well done!

Lashan Mathivathanan, Michael Fisher, Conor Coakley, Jeyakrishna Jeyakumar, Sophia Hou, Ellis Denyoh, Lauren Fenn, Carmen Luong and Qian Lucy Li all in 7HLE, Taran Birdee and Ben Jones 7SRA have also attained 50 merits. Well done. All names will be entered into the draw for an iPod. Mrs Kemp

## Year 9 Star reward system

We have four students who have achieved 25 stars for endeavours above and beyond what is expected of them, they are: Richard Mashedar, Jack Beasley 9CJA and Shauna Hilton 9ELS.

Well done to these students and good luck to everyone else endeavouring to reach their 25 star goal.

Miss Squires

## Arabic Club

Arabic club will be running every Thursday at Academic Monitoring and break time in M17. We are going to learn about Arabic culture, do basic conversations and even try some writing!

If you would like to join, just turn up or see me.

Miss Novikova

## Culture Club

**Legally Blonde** ~ there are only 10 tickets still available (and many members of staff who would love to go) so students who would like to attend must get their letters to the Finance Office as soon as possible and no later than Tuesday 9th February. (The show is on 24th February; letters are available from the English Department if you need one.)

**Measure for Measure** ~ students who would like to go to this stunning performance of one of Shakespeare's most intriguing plays on Monday 29th March should collect a letter from the English Department as soon as possible. We have only 20 tickets, and many students are studying it at the moment, so it's first come, first served.

**Coming soon** ~ Ibsen's great classic, **Hedda Gabler**, and the delightful ballet **La Fille Mal Gardée**. Ask the English Department for more details.

Ms Hanington and Ms Stoddard

## Sophists' Society

Next week's talk on philosophy and film will move from Tuesday 9th February to Wednesday 10th February – it will be held in SFC2 from 3.10pm until around 4pm. All 6<sup>th</sup> formers welcome. Ms Stoddard

## Attendance Office Request

Can we please ask parents to ensure that both the name of your child and their form group are included on absence notes. This information enables us to keep accurate attendance records. Thank you.

## School Production 2010 ~ 'Guys and Dolls' Rehearsal photos

