



## Year News

### Year 7

Congratulations to Jack Barton, Joshua Minchin (AJS) and Ashleigh Hunt (SAS) who have achieved 50 merits. Also, congratulations to Taranpreet Bhoday (SAS) who has reached 100 merits. Keep up the good work. Their names will be entered into the draw for an iPod.

K Brown

### Year 8

Congratulations to the Year 8 netball team for an outstanding victory against St Catherine's. The final score was 9-5, and we had the advantage throughout the game. The team was: Elizabeth Nicholson, Jessica North, Kelly Huynh, Elizabeth Howard, Nicola Imrie, Jodie Morton, Merryn Waddy, Anne Remigis, Winnie Lam, and Eloise Scarth. Well Done!

Michelle Bacon and Jessica North

### Year 9

Year 9 swimmers have enjoyed considerable success in the Kent Secondary Schools meets at Gillingham over the past two Saturdays:

Sam Shrimpton (100 Breaststroke) and John Pitchford (100m Freestyle) achieved personal best times. Alex Picksley came 6<sup>th</sup> in the 100m Butterfly final.

Our Relay Team of Sam, John, Alex and George Evans came 2<sup>nd</sup> in both the 4 x 50m Freestyle and 4 x 50m Medley Relays. Well done to you all.

Because of weather disruption, I have missed the Year 9 assembly this week. I would like, therefore, to update students about the 4 Drew Campaign. We have raised over £20,000! Drew's treatment is now booked to commence in the US in the next 2-3 weeks. So far, Year 9 have raised £233 but it is not too late to make a contribution ~ our ultimate aim target is £50,000. There is a fund raising rugby match at Rectory Field on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30 pm. All BGS students, parents and staff are warmly welcome. All donations to come to me, Form Tutors or the Finance Office.

Many thanks, C Morris

### Year 11

Last week there was a Year 11 History trip to the Imperial War Museum. I heard fantastic reports about their attitude and behaviour and that they were a delight to take out on a school trip. Keep it up, not long to go now!

Mrs Kemp

### Forthcoming Events

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February ~ Y10 Parents' Evening**

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February ~ Half Term 1 week**

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February ~ Y9 Parents' and Options Evening**

### Year 12

Year 12 Bexley Public Speaking competition 'The Olympics ~ the political games?' takes place on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February. The following students will be representing the school at this fiercely competitive event and they will be rehearsing their speech in year 12 assembly that day. Good luck to them all! Harry Warwick, Aaron Eckelt, Anike Akinola, Michael Dickson, Jonathan Dias.

## And ...

On Thursday the Christian Union will be reading through Psalm 139 as part of this month's bible study and the theme of Valentine's Day. Everyone is more than welcome to attend – L4 from 3:15 until 4pm.

M Harris

During the February half-term the Classics Department will be taking 46 students to Rome and the Bay of Naples. We will be spending two days in Rome seeing the Colosseum, the Palatine where the emperors lived and the Roman forum as well as other sites. After that we move to the Bay of Naples to see Pompeii, Herculaneum, climb Mt Vesuvius and drive down the Amalfi coast to the Classical site of Paestum. This is a chance for students to visit and see places that they have studied while learning Latin at the school.

Miss Pearson

## Examination Information:

### Advance Notice:

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm  
Y11 GCSE Double Science ~ Data Task

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm  
Y11 GCSE Triple Science Physics ~ Science in the News task

Students will need to take lunch at period 5.

### From the English Department

For Year 11 who are going to 'Poetry Live' next Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February, please note the following:

- Register in the canteen extension promptly at 8.30
- You must be in school uniform
- Remember to bring a packed lunch
- You don't need to take your anthology or paper but you must bring a pen
- There will be two coaches. Please note that students who have the surnames beginning A to Jayatharan will be on the first coach. Those with the surnames Johnson to W will be on the second coach
- We will be leaving the venue at 3.00 and should be back around 4.30

If you have any further questions please see Mrs Macleod or Ms Casey

*Important notice for parents of Year 11 students attending 'Poetry Live'*

*The BBC will be filming Simon Armitage giving a reading of his poetry at the event on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February. This will form part of a documentary to be broadcast in the Spring on BBC4 and will involve filming the student audience.*

*If you have any objection to your son or daughter being filmed as part of this documentary please inform the school asap.*

On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February all English prefects will be involved in a training day led by the 'Reading Matters' charity. They will be taught how to support weaker readers lower down the school and give them the motivation to read regularly. This is a fantastic opportunity, both for the prefects, who will receive an accredited qualification, and all the students lower down school who will benefit from the extra support.  
M Baker

*Also:* Senior book club on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb in J10, period 6 will be discussing 'Twilight' by Stephanie Meyer. All are welcome!

Mrs Macleod and Miss Fairbairn

### Girls' Football

The Under 15s football team played a tremendous National Cup match versus Bexleyheath last Tuesday. We won 4-1 and have now made our way into the final 16 Teams in England. Player of the match was Alex Foulds 10AMC, but well done to all the girls for their amazing effort. The match versus Tideway from West Sussex is due to be played as soon as the snow clears.

Mrs Haslam

### Information

House Dance will now take place on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February.

Year 11 and Year 13 reports have been postponed until Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

### Words with international roots

*donnybrook* (noun):

A brawl; a free-for-all / A heated quarrel or dispute. (Irish)

Spreading the IB to Islington – round two!  
Congratulations and a special thank you to Jack Higgins, Jade Landers and John Remigus who shared their IB experiences with St Mary Magdalene Academy's prospective IB students and parents on 29<sup>th</sup> January. They were a credit to themselves, the school and the IB programme.  
Mrs Leffen