



Forthcoming Events

Friday 24th September ~ INSET Day

Monday 27th September ~ School Photographs for Years 7, 9 & 12
Wednesday 29th September ~ Year 13 Parents' Evening



BGS Year 13 Volunteers

Volunteers, who assisted the Bexley Libraries Summer Reading Challenge during the holidays, were invited to attend a celebration event held at the Civic Offices on the 16th September. 72 volunteers between the ages of 16-74, committed over 1000 hours to help encourage children in Bexley to develop a real love of reading and made the challenge a great success. As well as refreshments and fantastic entertainment by renowned storyteller Sandra Agard, the Mayor, Councillor Val Clark, presented certificates of appreciation to BGS students: Nadine Coleman, Lauren Coleman, Chantelle Datiari, Amina Mekharef, Beth Thomas, Donatien Mutarambirwa, Tim Man, Adam Grimley, Darren Fernandes and Antony Long. Congratulations to all.

Mrs Leffen

Clubs

Year 7, 8 and 9 students are invited to join **Games Club**, which runs every Monday, Wednesday and Friday lunchtime in M16. Students can come along and enjoy such games as Chess, Draughts, Scrabble, Jenga, Cards, Yahtzee and much more...Staff are invited too!

Mrs J Prescott

This school year **Arabic Club** will be running every Thursday

at Academic monitoring and break time in M18. We are going to learn about Arabic culture, do some basic conversations and even try some writing!

If any student would like to join us just turn up or contact Miss Novikova for further information.

Russian Club is on again every Wednesday after school in J1. There is something to do for everyone: if you haven't done any Russian before, you can learn the Russian alphabet and some basic phrases, if you are learning Russian, you can learn more about Russian language and culture, watch Russian movies and sing Russian songs. For more information please contact Miss Novikova.

Christian Union will be held during Tuesday break time in M20 from 10:40-10:50 (prayer space) and Thursday after school in M21 for bible study. All students and staff are welcome to attend each week.

Mr M Harris

The BGS **Bridge Club** has started up again (Thursday period 6 in M19, since you ask). The first meeting of term was buzzing with enthusiastic card players ranging in experience from complete innocence in the ways of finessing through to the old hands who played through last year. This year we are planning to run a team competition throughout the year in addition to the House Bridge. There is also a rumour that the Parents' Association are planning a bridge evening if there are enough parents ready to face up to the skills and ingenuity of the students. Watch this space!

Mr Handscombe

Harvest Festival

This will be held on Friday 1st October. This year's donations will be given to the national charity Women's Aid, Bexley branch, which supports women and children who are the victims of domestic violence and abuse. We would be extremely grateful for donations of the following items:

Tea bags, coffee, sugar, biscuits, pasta, rice, cereals, fresh fruit and vegetables, tinned meats / fish, crisps, snacks, sweets, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, bubble bath, shower gel, baby toiletries, nappies, wipes, toilet rolls, washing powder, cleaning products.

Friday October 1st will also be one of our non-uniform days to support **Jeans for Genes Day**. Students will need to pay their £1 to wear something denim and not their school uniform.

School Council

Student Safety

Please do not use our car park to drop off students in the morning.

This creates considerable danger which can easily be avoided by dropping students off around the corner or beyond the width restrictions.

Thank you

Year 7 Tutor Parents' Evening

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Year 7 tutor parents' evening on Tuesday. It was great to see so many attend and provided an excellent opportunity for parents and tutors to discuss the Year 7 cohort's progress so far. It also provided a chance for parents to find out about the diploma Year 7s will be following this academic year. I would also like to thank the members of Year 8 who helped greet parents and talked about their experience of the diploma last year, they were a credit to Mrs Kemp and the rest of their year group.

Mr Crawford

Millennium Club

Many parents have indicated they would still like to join the Millennium Club scheme this term and the PA has therefore agreed to postpone September's draw until the October meeting.

If every family joins in the scheme (it's just a fiver) we would be able to raise approximately **£2500** for the school. Remember, the more shares we sell the higher the prize money (and the more money we raise to put towards Sixth Form Centre improvements which we hope will ultimately benefit all students currently attending Bexley Grammar School).

One £5 donation enters you into a year's worth of draws (or three full academic terms) and for this you have the chance to win a prize in more than 14 draws held during that time (that's just 36p to enter each draw for which you could win up to £50 or more – prize money is to be confirmed and is calculated as a percentage of total shares sold).

If you haven't already bought your one or more share and would like a form sent to you or more details about the Millennium Club, please contact Catherine Stock via email at catherinejstock@hotmail.co.uk (deadline for applications this term is Friday 8th October). Please ensure your form and money are sent in an envelope marked 'Finance Office – PA Millennium Club'.

With thanks in advance for your generous support. Your school PA.

Notices

Sign Language ~ Tuesdays' BSL Level 2 classes have been cancelled. BSL Level 1 will now run on both Mondays and Tuesdays, if you are interested please contact Gina Bobin.

Reporting a student absent from school ~ Please call the Attendance Office on the first day of absence and keep the school informed if the illness is ongoing. A letter is required on the student's return to school (not to be given to the form tutor but put in the silver box marked Attendance Letters in the canteen).

Medical appointments should, where possible, be made outside school hours. If your child has a medical appointment please inform the Attendance Office beforehand if possible.

No student will be allowed to leave school during the day without a note giving them permission to leave. If your child forgets to bring in a note you must contact the school to confirm that they have your permission to leave and the reason why. Thank you.

Reminder ~ HPV vaccinations will take place on Thursday 30th September for Year 8 girls. If you have not yet registered please collect a form from Reception.

Academic Council's 60 Second Interview

Interviewers: So when is the Year 13 Parents' Evening?

Mr Gilmore: It is on Wednesday 29th of September

Interviewers: What is the main purpose of this Parents' Evening?

Mr Gilmore: It is the last one for this group and so is very important. Their autumn reports are issued on the same day, so it will be a great opportunity to discuss progress, any issues, predicted grades, future plans e.g. universities etc, with their subject teachers.

Interviewers: Is there any advice you would like to give them?

Mr Gilmore: Look at your strengths and places for improvement in your reports, and set targets for each subject. Ask your teachers about the best revision strategies for their subject. This meeting will be a springboard for what will be a challenging but enjoyable and hopefully successful Year 13.

Interviewers: Thank you very much.