



Sixth Form Culture Club Visits

“It’s True, It’s True, It’s True”

On 17th October, a small group of Sixth Formers visited the New Diorama Theatre in London to see “It’s True, It’s True, It’s True” as part of a Culture Club trip. Just a one hour play, “It’s True, It’s True, It’s True” dramatises a rape case from 1612 in Rome. For me, this was particularly powerful as the Breach Theatre Company used the original manuscript of the trial, which had been translated into English from Latin and is so real that you are really invested in the outcome of the case.

Truly a feminist play, “It’s True, It’s True, It’s True” explores the story of famous baroque painter, Artemisia Gentileschi, who was raped at fifteen by her painting teacher, Agostino Tassi. You learn fairly early on that Artemisia only goes to court two years later because she realises that Tassi will never marry her like he promised and she cannot live with the shame of not marrying him after what happened. This is only the beginning and the play manages to show how little has changed in the past four hundred years, but also how women have been oppressed throughout history.

The reason that I personally enjoyed the play so much was that, despite the depressing nature of the play, and how it tackles inherent sexism, it manages to still feel empowering and there is a triumphant, uplifting feel to the ending, despite the outcome of the trial. It feels like such a change from the constant anger and the feeling that everything is getting worse that seems to be everywhere in the news recently. It also incorporates classic baroque paintings, such as Judith Slaying Holofernes (and the many different versions of this painting) and a funny re-enactment of Susanna and the Elders.

It is a very ambitious play which manages to be very political, heart breaking and empowering all in just one short hour.

Alice Brayford, Year 12



“The Importance of Being Earnest”

On 26th September, as part of Bexley Grammar’s Culture Club, a few other peers and I went to the Vaudeville Theatre on the Strand to watch Oscar Wilde’s “The Importance of Being Earnest”. The play is based on the idea that the main character, John Worthing, is an inventor of a fictitious brother (Earnest), and uses this brother as a disguise to go wherever he pleases, doing whatever he wants without judgement from upper class society on his own person for the sole reason that he can blame it all on his brother.



Having been first performed in 1895 and set in the late Victorian era, one could assume the play to be very dated and unsuitable for an audience of sixth formers in some ways. However, the incredibly witty dialogue and satirical take on such an era makes the play timeless in its comedy, and refreshing in its triviality - it’s not meant to be taken seriously, and Wilde pushes this to its extremity, blatantly foreshadowing, throughout, how the play will eventually end.

Having never read any of Wilde’s books, or seen any of his plays, I am certain that this was the ideal introduction to Wilde’s work, due to the fact that it gives an incredible insight into Wilde’s wit, and having been one of his less meaningful of plays, the play is very easy to watch as nothing really is ever on the line. Moreover, the fact that the stakes are so low for the characters increases the comedy, as the dramatic irony of the characters worrying about what they think is everything - and that the audience knows as meaning nothing - emphasises how meaningless Victorian society essentially was, creating in some ways a dark humour that is reconciled delightfully with the obvious but perfect, happy ending that alludes to - again - the frivolity of everything that was taken as sacred. You get an almost fictitious and false feeling of happiness at the end as it all works out so well for everyone, due to the small and reckless mistakes of the characters, meaning that nobody really deserves any of the ending content. But, this isn’t a problem; Wilde only wants to show that it doesn’t, and that nothing really does, matter. And, for that, it is hilarious.

Theo Taylor, Year 12



PE News

Barcelona Sports Tour 2018

I would like to start by saying a huge thank you to the 60 pupils from Years 8 and 9 that attended the Barcelona Sports Tour this October half term. The number of pupils was split evenly between boys and girls and included 2 male football squads, a female football squad and 2 female netball squads. All 5 teams had some great results playing local opposition as well as other schools from the UK in structured tournaments.



Thank you to the BGS staff who gave up their break. The staff who went on the trip have nothing but praise for how all teams conducted themselves whilst competing and how well you all represented BGS throughout the week.

The trip started early with a 2.15am meet and then did not get any easier for pupils as they were put through their paces by Espanyol Football Coaches, West Ham United Football Coaches and England Netball Coaches. The trip is exhausting, but alongside the sports the pupils took part in bowling, a disco and a day trip to PortAventura (one of the largest theme parks in Europe). In addition to these activities we also toured the Camp Nou (Barcelona's Stadium) and visited the Barcelona Museum, which is a tribute to the history of such an amazing club. You would think that the pupils would need a rest at some point, but instead they made the most of the hotel pool during the little down time there was between activities.

There are many more photos of the Tour to be seen on the PE Facebook and Twitter page. Please do take a look! (Facebook is Facebook.com/BexleyGSPE and Twitter is @BGSSportsTour)

It was an absolute pleasure to take away such a lovely bunch of pupils. Good luck to all of you for the rest of the season!

Mr Mackle, PE Teacher



5k club will be on a Thursday after school for the next 6 weeks not a Wednesday.

*Mrs Howard
PE Department*



Library News

Could you spare us an hour or two on a Tuesday?

We are enjoying a wonderful team of volunteer parent/carer assistants who support the Librarian at lunchtimes during the week and one parent who is kindly overseeing the Library on a Wednesday; we are extremely grateful for this help. We now have a vacancy on a Tuesday: If you think you may be able to help, please email Mrs Carey (carey_r@bexleygs.co.uk) as soon as possible.

Mrs Carey, Librarian



A whole new word ~ Year 10

Week 8



Biology
Business
Chemistry
Classics
Computer Science
Drama
Economics
English
History
Maths
MFL
Music
Physics
P.E.

Denaturation
Privatisation
Titre
Sportula
Protocol
Metatheatre
Ceteris Paribus
Curmudgeonly
Vaccination
Variable
Infer
Symphony Orchestra
Transducer
Proximal

Free Tree Saplings

We have 420 tree saplings that have been won through a competition by a student, however we cannot keep them at our school because we do not have the space.

If you are keen to take some of these saplings then they will be available, free of charge, to collect from school (**date to follow shortly**). Any donations will be appreciated and will go towards the Year 13 Prom Fund.

There are 14 different species of tree available: hazel, blackthorn, crab apple, dog rose, elder, cherry plum, hawthorn, dogwood, wild cherry, silver birch, rowan, common oak, field maple and grey willow. Some of them will produce edible fruit, quality working wood or colourful flowers. The trees will take 30 years to reach their full height (a few dozen meters) so it is long-term development.

If you have any questions or would like further information regarding the trees, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at enquiries@bexleygs.co.uk and include "Free Trees" in the subject line.

Shivani Hindocha, Year 13



Japanese Rakugo Comedy Show

On 15th October, students studying Japanese and Drama saw the Japanese music, dance and comedy show 'Rakugo', in the School Theatre. The performers came all the way from Japan to do their act. Our first slice of culture, was listening to the musicians playing a traditional musical instrument called the Shamisen. We then watched Japanese dancers as they performed a traditional slow dance in cultural Japanese dresses. Finally, we got to the comedy and watched a variety of acts from making sounds and using sign language, to a story about a Japanese baby who had been given a very long name that meant 'very positive things'. I was lucky enough to be a volunteer in the show and had to act out having an obsession with ice cream ("I love ice cream, ice cream loves me").

I would like to say a big thank you to the cast for acting at our school and a big thank you to Mrs Everett for organising this event because without her, I probably would not have had this opportunity and I am extremely grateful! Arigatou Gezaimasu!!

Nathan Singleton, Year 8

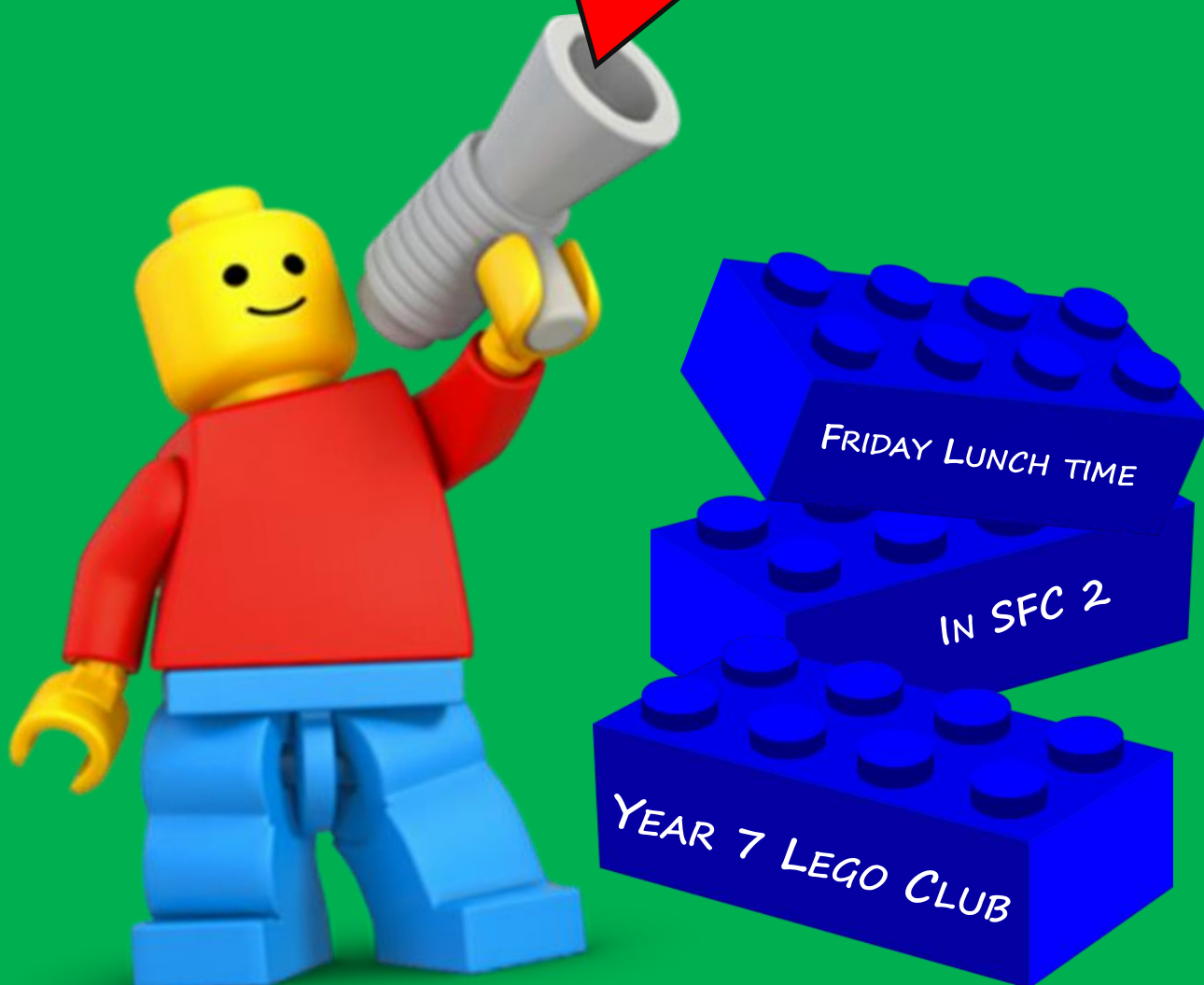


BGS LEGO CLUB

Do you have any unwanted Lego? If the answer is yes, please consider donating it to the BGS Lego Club. Year 7 students are setting up a brand new club. Any contributions will be gratefully received and can be left at Reception for the attention of Miss Scott.

Thank you in anticipation.

The Lego Club



News items you may have missed

Sankaku Shotokan



KARATE

三
角
形
松
濤
館
空
手



2 free
lessons

Club locations in Welling, Falconwood and Thamesmead
Children welcome from 4 years old and adults
Instructors are DBS checked and insured

For further information regarding classes please contact:

Andy Ebdon Tel: 07403 879456

www.sskkarate.co.uk info@sskkarate.co.uk

Forthcoming Events

November

Friday 9th ~ Remembrance Day

Tuesday 20th ~ **Sixth Form Open Evening for internal students only 5.30pm - 8pm**

Monday 26th ~ Power Day 2

December

Friday 21st ~ Last school day before the Christmas Holiday