



## BGS Students take part in the UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge

Bebras is a national challenge run by Oxford that tests computational thinking and logical processing. It is a challenge that consists of mostly multiple choice questions where there are 3 types of questions, A, B and C, varying in difficulty. A type questions give you marks for correct answers and for incorrect answers will not change your score, but B and C will give you more marks if you are correct, but will deduct marks if you are wrong, thus meaning if you do not know the answer then it is better to leave it unanswered.

To take part in the challenge is very simple, the school registers students and they get login details, they then have a 40 minute time slot to complete a set of challenges. In our year, the Computer Science IB class took part, however you do not need to study Computer Science to be able to enter the competition. All age groups can enter, from Year 2 to Year 13. If you manage to get in to the top 60 students in the country you will be invited to Oxford to carry on with the challenge. Students who scored in the top 10% of the UK will also be invited to the TCS Oxford challenge in March.

I thought Bebras was a challenge to test my own logical thinking and if I trusted my judgement, I was correct about the answer that I got.

*James Zhang-Ly, Year 12*



### The Results!

At the beginning of November 462 Bexley Grammar School students, across Year 7- 12, took part in the UK Bebras Challenge. Over 125,000 students took part in this challenge nationally, and our students were brilliant and have some fantastic results to show for their efforts.

### Year 8 and Year 9

Students entered at BGS: **373**

Students entered nationally: **101,342**

BGS Students in Top 10% in UK: **110**

BGS Students with Distinction (Top 25% in UK): **95**

Best in School: **Isabelle Leung, Year 9**



## Year 10 and Year 11

Students entered at BGS: **60**  
Students entered nationally: **19,542**  
BGS Students in Top 10% in UK: **16**  
BGS Students with Distinction (Top 25% in UK): **16**  
Best in School: **Mariusz Tang, Year 10**



## Year 12 and Year 13

Students entered at BGS: **27**  
Students entered nationally: **6,415**  
BGS Students in Top 10% in UK: **3**  
BGS Students with Distinction (Top 25% in UK): **8**  
Best in School: **James Zhang-Ly, Year 12**



## So what happens next...

We have 129 students that have been invited to compete in the TCS Oxford Computing Challenge in March, these are the students that scored in the Top 10% nationally, and obviously they will smash it!

Well done to all students that participated, you've definitely made us proud.

*Miss Muirhead, Head of Computer Science*

## Sixth Form Japan Day at SOAS

On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November, all the Year 12 IB sixth form Japanese students (standard and AB initio) made their own ways to SOAS in London.

Upon arriving, we met up with our teacher and the rest of our group at 10:00 am. After much of the administration details were done, our first activity finally began at 10.30 am. While the rest of the day was split up into workshop sessions, these sessions are dependent on what we each chose to do beforehand (these ranged from learning to draw manga, calligraphy, drawing with calligraphy, martial arts, etc...) so you can be sure whatever you picked there will be three fun and engaging 50 minute sessions awaiting you!

Aside from the workshops we also attended lectures which talked about various opportunities about working abroad in Japan and studying Japanese at a higher level as well as some general interesting lifestyle topics.

Overall the day was very enjoyable, even if you are not too steeped into Japanese culture, and all in all a very enjoyable experience, so.... If you have the chance to go next year it is definitely worth it to go.

*Stevee Pang, Year 12*





## Japan Trip 2018 Part 2

### Kyoto: 23<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> October

On October 23rd (Tuesday) our group arrived in Kyoto by Shinkansen (Bullet Train) at around 11AM. Promptly from the station, we took some local transport (bus) for 15 minutes to our first destination - Nijo Castle. This historical castle is a tourist attraction and is visited all the time. Our group entered the castle (barefoot/with socks) and had a fun time walking around inside and learning about the rulers who never lived there and only visited a couple of times during 260 years of their reign. Outside, we were amazed to see the beautiful gardens were carefully looked after and the ponds bursting with koi carps. After that we visited Nishijin Textiles Museum and watched a Kimono fashion show on a stage and also learned to use a traditional wooden weaving machine to create samples out of different coloured wool. In the end they turned out to look like small scarves! As it was Mrs Everett's birthday we went to a sushi restaurant that evening where we all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. Our accommodation for that night was the Kyoto Utano Youth Hostel which accommodated us nicely. The next day (24th October), we went to a Golden Temple. The temple itself was really pretty and as we wandered round we saw how much more beautiful it was. Unfortunately though, we couldn't go inside. The same day, our group went to the Pokemon Centre in Kyoto as well as traditional area to find lunch. Very shortly after we sped off to a building where we tried our luck at Karaoke! For

some of us it sounded a bit dodgy... After some fun though, we headed up a hill lined with shops and vending machines to the top where a temple resides. With an exquisite view and beautiful architecture, many of us had a great time here - an attractive feature was a waterfall divided into 3 jets of water. Supposedly, they represented health, wisdom and beauty and you were allowed to drink from 2 and 'gain' some 'benefit'. I'm not sure how accurate it was but we had some fun trying our luck as our journey in Kyoto was coming to an end. With some nice souvenirs and some strange buys from vending machines, we got onto Shinkansen and left for our partner school, Keio SFC in a suburb of Tokyo...

**George Cook Year 11**



## Keio Shonan Fujisawa High School visit: 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> October

During the last few days of the Japan trip, we experienced life at Keio Shonan Fujisawa High School. For the first night stayed at the new Keio dormitory (before we met up with our exchange students). The next morning we traveled to Keio SFC, and took a tour around. It was amazing how large and different it was to BGS. After our tour we presented slides with information about English school and culture to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders. Then we met up with our exchange students. My exchange student, Nao, like many of the Japanese students, lived a long way from the school. That night I also met two of Nao's friends, Rina and Yui. Thankfully, they were all quite fluent in English and we had fun playing Mario Kart.

The next morning I attended Nao's lessons at Keio, alongside Niamh and her exchange partner, Sakurako. We had fun playing "Fruit Basket" in Social studies. In Mathematics I was thoroughly confused, not only due to language barriers but the fact that I was with a class of 17 Year olds. Next I attended their Home Economics lesson, which was slightly different to BGS' food technology lessons. In groups students had to make and prepare baby milk, whilst one student would practice doing activities in a pregnancy belt. Overall an interesting concept, and entertaining too. Other lessons included a Japanese English lesson, and PE, tennis in large outdoor courts. After school we split into groups to participate in both a Japanese tea ceremony and Karuta club. During the tea ceremony we received a sweet piece of candy and a small serving of the traditional green tea. The ceremony was calm and another unique experience unlike anything in England. We then watched a short match of Karuta, a card game in which lines of poetry are written. A person says the first few lines of the poem, and the two opposing competitors must select the correct card with the finishing lines of the poem before their opponent. Despite being a card game, it was a rather aggressive and intense game. Once these activities were over, many of us met at an Italian restaurant to eat. Everyone was talking and messing around, and it was nice to meet up with the others and enjoy more familiar foods in contrast to many of the foreign Japanese dishes.

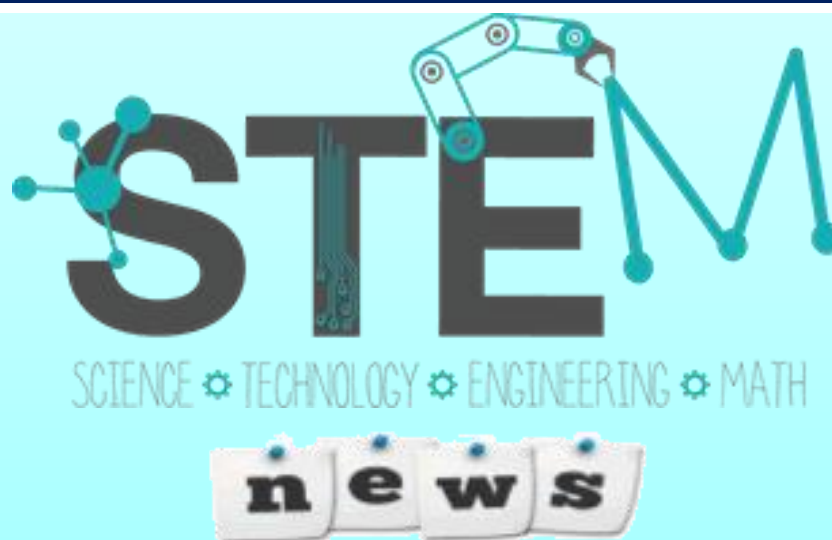
On our last day we attended the Keio vs Waseda baseball match. Waseda and Keio are both large private schools, with a rivalry similar to that of Oxford and Cambridge. It was amazing to see the amount of effort and school spirit involved, with teams of cheerleaders and orchestras on both sides of the stadium. Keio ended up winning 3:1, much to the joy of our exchange partners.

The next morning we departed. We are truly grateful at the hospitality that both Keio and its students have shown us.

### *Devon Fell-Smith, Year 10*







It has been a busy term for STEM events! It all kicked off on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September, when Miss Francis organised for BGS to take part in a live web discussion with a real NASA astronaut. Sunita Williams is an engineer who has been commander of the International Space Station and holds the world record for the longest space flight for a female astronaut (195 days). With almost 50 schools participating in this live event, it was exciting to have one of our Year 11 physics classes involved and they really took the opportunity to ask this prestigious and experienced astronaut some challenging questions that really got the nitty gritty of life in space! Since there was a stream of questions coming in from students around the country, we were thrilled for Sunita to choose to answer 'Does the ISS get smelly?' which was posed by our BGS students. Well, it turns out that cleaning is an activity that astronauts spend a lot of their time on!



The inter-house STEM competition also took place this term over four weeks. Teams of Year 8 and 9 students from the six different houses adapted robots to knock down skittles in a timed trial. The students rose to the challenge as always and the final event was full of drama; from batteries running out, to last minute tearing off and sticking on of appendages. However, there was a clear winner, which was never in doubt. Wellman's robot ploughed across the area, sweeping away all the skittles in just 13 seconds!



This academic year has seen the introduction of the new Power Days (taking the place of the previous ECM days), filled with opportunities for students to engage in a range of extra-curricular activities to enrich and empower them in a variety of ways. Power Day 2 on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November had the theme 'Industry and Enterprise'. There was a huge range of activities throughout the school from a Dragon's Den project for Year 7s right through to IB Chemistry and Physics practical assessments for Year 13 students. As the



the main building corridor filled with the smell of burning, we knew that the chemistry Internal Assessments were well underway. A chance for students to complete an experiment of their own design and gain essential practical skills which will prove invaluable for those going on to university to study a Science degree.

On Power Day 2, both Year 9 and Year 10 students were treated to a number of different workshops delivered by industry professionals. Having signed up to their choice of workshops, Year 9 students spent the day completing tasks that would give them a taste of what it would be like to work in their chosen field. The choices were to work with a chef and learn how to cook a three course Spanish inspired meal, veterinary science, computer science, product design, architecture, engineering and textiles. The hands on activities combined with the insights provided by our expert visitors provided an incredibly inspiring as well as enjoyable day. Additionally, Year 10 were involved in a number of different activities designed to promote careers in town planning, architecture and engineering, all delivered by industry experts.



I thoroughly enjoyed participating in the Architectural Design Workshop. I loved that the architects from the Architect Company explained what they do and how step by step they design a structure. We then got briefed on the building we were designing (a poppy centre) and drew some concept designs. From there, we began to locate the building on the site area and develop the design of the building. Eventually we built a prototype model of part of or all of our building. Finally, we presented our ideas to the group! I liked how the architects were coming round and talking to us about our designs, suggesting ideas and answering questions. This helped me to in the end produce a better design and I overall, really enjoyed it. It was a great experience and it inspired me- as I am looking to go into this industry.



### ***Anya Scothern, Year 9***



During Power Day I, was in the engineering group. The task given was to build a roller-coaster track that a marble would roll down, using only various types of cardboard and tape, and include: A 30cm drop, 20cm without using tape and a 360° turn. We were then put into groups of five people and began work. I enjoyed Power Day, the day in general taught me a lot about aspects of the engineering process, for example the design cycle. The assistants from the university were lovely to work with and were a great source of information about going into engineering for GCSEs and later a career. All in all it was a wonderful experience that I would love to do again.



### ***Hannah-Louise Donovan, Year 9***

For Industry Day, some of the Year 9's did computer science. First, we listened to a short lecture by someone called Chris Mannix who works for a coding company. He told us about qualifications, values to have as a coder and much more. After that, we were set a task similar to one his company faced not too long ago to do with stock trading and time zones. After that we made our own safari parks with different outcomes based on probability. Overall, I felt as though we all learnt a lot and it was extremely beneficial to those of us aspiring to follow a career path in coding.

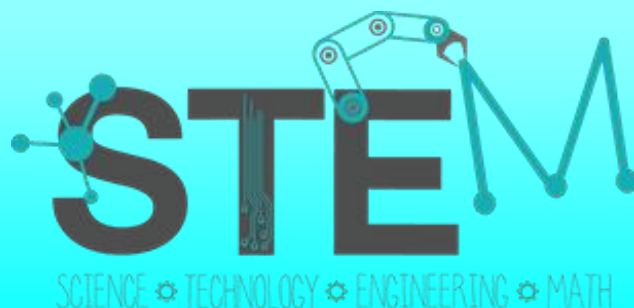
### ***Max Dawkins, Year 9***



Through the planning of this day BGS is very excited to have secured a permanent partnership with the architectural firm IID Architects and we look forward to drawing on their expertise and enthusiasm in future projects.



*Ms Lusted, STEM Coordinator*



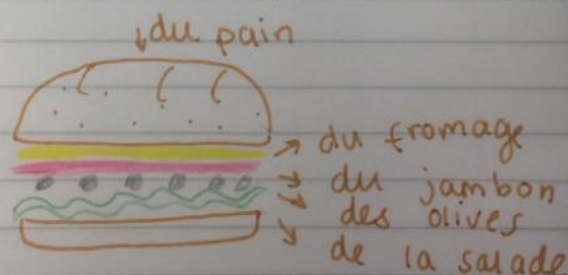
## Les Sandwiches!

8MPJ have been learning about food in French this term. This culminated with them all designing a sandwich and some students even made their sandwiches and brought them in. All students gave a presentation about how they made their sandwich, using the notoriously tricky 'passé composé'! Leo Ridge and Bethany Baker took the titles of the best tasting sandwiches, however the overall class winner was Jay Chin, who had designed a mustard and chicken sandwich. Miam miam! Bon travail 8MPJ!

*Miss Roberts, MFL Department*



mon sandwich est délicieux!  
J'ai acheté du pain et j'ai  
coupé ce. J'ai ajouté une tranche  
de fromage et une tranche de  
jambon sur le sandwich.  
Normalement j'ai mis du beurre  
dans mon sandwich mais je  
n'ai pas aujourd'hui. J'ai  
pris de la salade verte et  
ajouté sur mon sandwich.  
J'ai aussi coupé des olives  
et mis sur le sandwich.  
Voilà mon sandwich vacances!







My Sandwich - Mon sandwich

J'ai ouvert une miche de pain. J'ai pris deux tranches. J'ai ouvert la crème et le paquet de fraises. J'ai coupé les fraises et j'ai ajouté la crème. J'ai pris une tranche de pain et j'ai mis les fraises et la crème sur le pain. Après ça j'ai mis l'autre tranche sur le sandwich. Voilà! Délicieux!



## A whole new word ~ Year 10

### Week 12



Art  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Classics  
Computer Science  
Drama  
English

Detail  
Electrocardiogram  
Saturation  
Patronage  
Hexadecimal  
Rostrum  
Parsimonious

History  
Maths  
MFL  
Music  
Physics  
P.E.

Convey  
Coefficient  
Aural  
Tremolo  
Momentum  
Hypothermia



## “Chicago” Review

On 28<sup>th</sup> November, the Sixth Form, Culture Club took a trip to see the musical “Chicago” at the Phoenix Theatre near Charing Cross. Set in Chicago in the Jazz Age of the 1920s, it tells the story of Roxie Hart, a young woman who is sent to jail for the murder of a man she was having an affair with and her quest to be acquitted, rather than hanged, but more importantly: to be in the papers!

Despite “Chicago” having been written nearly one hundred years ago, I found its portrayal of fame and its fickle nature oddly apt in our modern society, with the obsession many people have with becoming internet-famous, only to soon become “irrelevant”. Roxie is a character based on the infamous murder trial of Beulah Annan and, upon realising that she needs to raise \$5000 for the best lawyer in town, sets out to make the headlines. But of course, fame is only temporary and this wonderfully satirical musical makes this only too clear to the audience. Roxie is blissfully ignorant to this and is soon caught up in the crazy world of showbiz, convinced the whole city will remember her forever.

Perhaps my favourite feature of “Chicago” was the band - instead of being hidden away, the jazz band was part of the set. The characters often were incorporated into the band and seeing the musicians play live not only evoked the jazzy “roaring twenties”, but meant that the whole audience could see how skilful the players were.

All in all, it was an amazing show and the singing, dancing and music were incredible. After all, it is “a story of murder, greed, corruption, violence, exploitation, adultery and treachery - all those things we hold near and dear to our hearts.”

**Alice Brayford, Year 12**



## Year 13 IB Chemistry Visit

On 12<sup>th</sup> November, Year 13 IB Chemistry students visited the Emmanuel Centre in Central London for a day packed with Chemistry lectures from different professors all around the country. It was really interesting to begin to understand how new elements are discovered, and throwing marshmallows at one of the professors made it even more enjoyable! It was insightful to hear how the lecturers explained their studies and the work that goes on behind each discovery. We were all captivated by the lectures discussing the harmful effects of plastics, and the complexities of nuclear fission. The day was definitely enlightening and inspiring for all students involved.

*Miss Ampong, Science Department*



## Reporting your child absent

Please call the attendance office only. **Please do not leave messages at reception or email teaching staff directly.**

If reporting your child absent you can email:

Mrs Thomas Sixth Form only – [thomas\\_t@bexleygs.co.uk](mailto:thomas_t@bexleygs.co.uk)

Leave message on the student absence line

Leave message on 020 8304 8538 ext. 202

Mrs Jeffery 7-11 years only - [jeffery\\_j@bexleygs.co.uk](mailto:jeffery_j@bexleygs.co.uk)

Leave message on the student absence line

Leave message on 020 8304 8538 ext. 203

You can also use these methods for reporting medical appointments and other attendance related issues.

***Mrs Jeffery, Attendance Office***



## PE News

An enormous well done to the boys in the Year 8 rugby team. They had their last game of 2018 against Kemnal, winning 45 - 20, to complete an unbeaten year. Great stuff. #invincibles.

*Mr Lines, Head of PE*



***What can we do about this?***  
***Find out in January.....***





---

# THANK YOU

YOUR POPPY SUPPORTS THE ARMED FORCES  
COMMUNITY PAST AND PRESENT

---

To: BEXLEY GRAMMAR

Thank you for supporting the Poppy Appeal.

Together we raised:

£ 378.52

To find out more about how your donation helps,  
visit [rbl.org.uk](http://rbl.org.uk)



## News items you may have missed

### Metropolitan Police Safer Schools Team

We have received this information from the Safer Schools Team. If you have any concerns regarding your child please contact Mr Gilmore, Deputy Head.

Metropolitan Police

SC&07 FALCON 'Protect' Team MONEY MULES



Currently, in the UK there is an increase in young people allowing their bank accounts to be used to receive and move money on behalf of third parties. This money often originates from crime and the account becomes a 'Mule Account' used in order to launder criminal funds, making the account holder a 'Money Mule.'

Young people are increasingly being asked by criminals to provide access to their bank accounts. They are being approached in a number of ways, for example via the internet, social media, at school, university or sports clubs. In some cases they are approached by people they know and believe they trust. They are often lured into allowing their account to be used by the offer of money for doing so, or believing they are doing so as a favour.

First, ask yourself, what do you know about the history of the money? Where has it come from? *Fraud, drugs importation, child exploitation, people trafficking, terrorism...* and where is it being sent, what is it funding?

Secondly, why are they not paying the money into their own bank accounts?

You may see this as "only transferring money", or "letting someone use your account", but it's not as innocent as that. You are helping criminals commit crime, often against vulnerable people.

Question your morals, would you help someone steal an 83 year old's life savings? or would you help criminals smuggle children into the UK?

Think about the consequences, Bank Accounts are private, anyone allowing their bank account to be used by an unauthorised person would breach the terms and conditions of their Bank account. If you allow your bank account to be misused in any way, the bank will close your account and report you to credit agencies.

Your credit rating will be affected. So you may find it difficult to open another bank account or get credit for a mobile phone, car loan or even a mortgage later on as your financial credit rating will be tarnished.

You are also committing a crime yourself. Anyone allowing criminal funds to go through their bank account is committing an offence of Money Laundering under the Proceeds of Crime Act. You could be subject to an arrest, have your Fingerprints, DNA and Photograph taken, and depending on your age, have your parents/guardians informed. You could face up to 14 years imprisonment and/or be given a fine/community service. Whatever the sentence, you have a Criminal Conviction.

Then consider the social effects, how would you be perceived by your family or friends? What message does this send to a future employer? Think about travel. Want to see the world one day? Many countries will refuse entry based on a criminal conviction, particularly Canada and the US, where even a minor criminal conviction 50 years old could refuse you entry.

### It is not 'easy money' it is criminal money

- Never give anyone your Bank card, PIN, passcode or password – Bank accounts are private
- Don't be lured or persuaded to receive money into your account even as a one off
- If you have been approached, break off all contact and don't receive or move any money and contact your Bank
- Report the matter to Action Fraud or the Police

**"If the deal sounds too good to be true, it most probably is!"**

For more information on Fraud prevention go to 'Resources for fighting fraud and cybercrime' at [www.met.police.uk/fraud](http://www.met.police.uk/fraud)



**METROPOLITAN  
POLICE**



**FALCON**  
FRAUD AND LINKED CRIME ONLINE



## Exam News

### Important information for all GCSE students

The awarding bodies have designated Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019 as a 'contingency day' for examinations.

The designation of a 'contingency day' within the common examination timetable is in the event of national or local disruption to examinations. It is part of the awarding bodies' standard contingency planning for examinations. **Therefore all GCSE candidates must remain available until Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019 should an awarding body need to invoke its contingency plan.**

*Mrs Bono, Examinations Officer*

## Forthcoming Events

### December

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> ~ Year 11 Food Preparation & Nutrition Exam**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> ~ Non-uniform day** (students please bring in £1 please)

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> ~ Year 11 & Year 13 Exam period & study leave commences for 2 weeks**

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas Dinner** In the canteen (information to follow)

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> ~ Last school day before the Christmas Holiday**

Year 12 students will be dismissed from school at approximately 11.40am

**Year 13 students are not required to attend school unless they are sitting an exam**

### January 2019

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> ~ First day of the spring term** - all students return to school

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> ~ Year 12 Parents' Evening**