



Jack Petchey's "Speak Out" Challenge!

On the 7th & 12th February, some Year 10 students were lucky enough to partake in a workshop run by the "Speakers Trust" in association with Jack Petchey. The workshop provided students with the perfect opportunity to speak and be heard, expressing their views on various topics with their peers and build communication skills for school, home and beyond.

Public speaking takes a lot of courage and each student certainly displayed that courage while performing their impromptu speeches and a final pre-prepared speech in front of their peers. They were able to listen and learn and most importantly, understand that their opinion matters!

Those who performed exceptionally throughout the workshop were advanced to the assembly, final which was held on the 6th March. The 9 students had to improve, refine and then perfect their speeches, leading up to the day where they would perform in front of the whole of Year 10!

One by one, they bravely took the stage and presented their speeches in front of the panel of judges as well as all of their classmates.

After a 10 minute wait that seemed like hours, the Judges finally returned with their top 3 candidates:

- 1st: God'sFavour Oluwanusin**
- 2nd: Brook Lord**
- 3rd: Tallulah Price-Toplis**

The winner has now advanced to the Regional Final on the 28th March and will compete with other assembly, final winners for a place in the Grand Final of the "Speak Out" Challenge. The winner of which, will be awarded £5000!

All the participants got so much out of this experience; they all tried something out of their comfort zone, increasing their confidence and allowing them to realise that they can thrive outside of what they are comfortable with and exceed expectations.



World Book Day

World Book Day took place on Thursday 7th March and, due to the unfortunately timed snow day last year, this year we were determined to celebrate. The English department arranged a wide variety of activities, guest speakers and quizzes for the whole school.

A display near the reception provided inspiration for many students who brought in a prop to represent a book, or a character from a book, and gathered in the library at break for photos and guessing each other's choices. This was not the only guessing game - members of staff joined in too, all wearing stickers with a book title connected to their subject and students were challenged to find as many as they could.

The Year 12 English prefects and Mr Morris teamed up to create various quizzes for the different key stages for academic monitoring, and of course, everyone took part in "Drop Everything and Read" for 15 minutes, regardless of what lesson you were in, making for some very interesting and comical photos - even the teachers took part!

Another event organised by the English department to celebrate was visits from authors Andrew Donkin, who delivered a lecture to the Year 8 students about his graphic novel "Illegal" and ran some workshops for selected year 8 students, and Mark Bowsher, another author who ran a writers workshop for Year 7 students taking part in a 500 word short story competition. The winners have since been announced: Jamie Wardle (7RPP) with gold, followed by Evie Nguyen (7LC) with silver and Amelie Leachan (7JR).

All in all, it was a very successful, fun day that allowed students and teachers across the school to enjoy and celebrate books, and an exciting opportunity for many students in the younger years who were able to see our guests and take part in workshops.

Thanks to the English department and Mrs Carey for organising such a fun and interactive day!

Alice Brayford, Year 12



Sir Stephen Laws visits BGS

On the 7th March, we were very fortunate to have Sir Stephen Laws visit Bexley Grammar. For over 30 years, Sir Stephen was one of the most senior civil service lawyers in the land, and was directly involved in drafting crucial legislation for a succession of Senior and Prime Ministers. He gave us a brilliant insight into the Civil Service, his own personal experience and the life lessons he has learned. He spoke about the importance of impartiality in the Civil Service and how it can be difficult to help draft legislation that you don't necessarily agree with.



It was a very informative, enlightening talk, which aided those of us who have an interest in politics and the law. To conclude, the discussion inevitably ended on the controversial topic of Brexit and Sir Stephen Laws shared his own opinions regarding the deal.

Simran Ghag, 12MCS

Civil Service

Exam News

Updated Year 10 Mock Exam time table for Year 10 students

The mock examination timetable for Year 10 students has been amended please click on the link [here](#) to view the updated version.

Important information for all GCSE students

The awarding bodies have designated Wednesday 26th 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 26th June 2019 should an awarding body need to invoke its contingency plan.**

Mrs Bono
Examinations Officer



Year 8 News

Following on from a busy and productive Parents' Evening, we have had a couple of requests to send out the stretch and challenge opportunities we circulated in the autumn term. This list provides details of how pupils could extend their learning in a subject of interest.

We hope you enjoy exploring this document and good luck!

Mrs Boulden, Director of Studies, Year 8

Year 8 Stretch & Challenge

Subject	Extension Opportunity
English	Book boxes are in every classroom with a wide range of challenging texts. In the box there are also several extension tasks that can be chosen by students when they have finished a task. Individual teachers run 'reading challenges' where students are encouraged to read the sequels of the class reader. The librarian oversees 3 reading groups including the Carnegie Shadowing Award. Students are continuing to fill out their reader's passports during scheduled library lessons in which they can ask for recommendations from both their teacher and the librarian. Finally, any creative writing that students wish to see published should contact Mrs Johnson so that it can be included in the School Magazine.
Maths	<p>The UK Junior maths challenge are an excellent source of problem solving questions. This is what maths is all about! Click on the link to get access to all the past papers. You will get an opportunity to take part in the maths challenge when you are in Year 8. Good luck!</p> <p><u>UK Junior maths challenge questions</u></p>
Science	<p>BBC bitesize KS3 and the relevant KS4 sites.</p> <p>Badger tasks (formative assessment tasks), which can be accessed by the teacher, are on a wide variety of different topic areas in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Identify a subject area of interest and we will select a task for you. These are graded tasks which provide guidance as to how to achieve the next grade up (all the way up to grade 9).</p> <p>A STEM club on is run on Mondays; a chance to use scientific ideas to solve real life problems.</p>
MFL	<p>Expand your knowledge of useful vocabulary and structures with our tailored online Memrise courses:</p> <p>German https://www.memrise.com/course/1811200/useful-tense-phrases-gcse/ French (Levels 1-26) https://www.memrise.com/course/1582260/new-gcse-french/ Spanish (Levels 1-25) https://www.memrise.com/course/1580290/new-gcse-spanish/ Italian (Levels 1-18) https://www.memrise.com/course/1490478/new-gcse-italian/</p> <p>We are also big fans of you watching your favourite Netflix shows in TL to expose yourself to more language!</p> <p>We have a variety of Cartoons/Films in TL on DVD, as well as children's books which are available for loan if you visit the Office.</p>

Subject	Extension Opportunity
Geography	<p>Students should use the national geographic website to explore, find and read articles on aspects of the units we have / will be studying this year. This is an excellent starting point for current issues and some high level reading/ideas. Please see the web link below and the topic list.</p> <p>https://www.nationalgeographic.com/</p> <p>Globalisation Oceans on the Edge Africa (challenges and opportunities) Pole to Pole (Antarctica to the South Pole) Global health and disease</p>
History	<p>Ask your teacher for some advice on what you could do to read around the subject. Visit the library to find additional reading material. Subscribe to the BBC History magazine. Watch Horrible Histories on YouTube. Watch relevant documentaries and programmes on the BBC iPlayer, 4oD, Yesterday or the History Channel. There are many useful websites to explore including BBC History and The History Learning Site.</p>
Latin	<p>Creating your own memrise/flashcards for the vocab is a great way of learning the words, especially English into Latin to really test yourself.</p> <p>Think up derivations to help you. https://www.etymonline.com/ is a great site for this.</p> <p>This creatively named website has grammar tables galore to keep on top of and test yourself: http://latintests.net/</p> <p>Go back over any past translations to check you understand how it all fits together. There may be some unfinished stories you can finish off. Check that your translations “flow”.</p> <p>Read any/all fiction books that relate to the subject (see teachers for recommendations, or ask Mrs Carey in the Library).</p>
Art	<p>The Story of Art by professor E.H. Gombrich Street Art Cookbook by Benke Carlsson & Louie Hop</p>
DT	<p>Useful website = www.technologystudent.com - This site includes mini design projects and video guidance. Students can also extend their learning and practice of CAD using the free online version of Sketch-Up to design ranges of products, buildings, working models. They can extend their workshop experience in after school clubs on Wednesdays and Thursdays and they can develop their cooking skills by entering house competitions and by repeating and developing school taught recipes at home with supervision.</p>
Music	<p>Practical Music</p> <p>Come and take part in the numerous music department clubs and groups we have on offer!</p> <p>Why not also think about applying for music lessons on an instrument you’ve been itching to learn? You can also complete further exams in your instrument, with Grades 6, 7 and 8 also giving you UCAS points.</p> <p>Download ‘MuseScore’ - a free music notation programme, like our Sibelius programmes at school. Compose your own piece of music, listening to other pieces you are inspired by. Check out https://www.hooktheory.com/hookpad to get you started on your next song!</p> <p>Do lots of listening and ask yourself HOW the composer as achieved a certain effect. YouTube it! Create a list of videos that inspire you.</p>

Subject	Extension Opportunity
Music	<p>Music Theory and Knowledge https://www.teoria.com/ - an excellent website that teaches you the fundamentals of music theory!! The BBC GCSE Music website is a great resource to develop a deeper understanding of musical styles and comes with excerpts that you can listen to. https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/topics/ztyb87h</p> <p>Music Technology https://learningmusic.ableton.com/ - an introduction to music technology, guiding you through the elements of music and how they are applied to dance and electronic music. A brilliant interactive website, where you can make your own music!</p>
Drama	<p>Audition for a school play- there is a KS3 only Shakespeare play auditioning in February to be performed in May. This will also help with your English literature. Alternatively, you could become a technician and help with lighting or sound design. Join a local youth theatre group- Bob Hope Theatre (http://www.bobhopetheatre.co.uk/newstagers.html), Stagecoach (https://www.stagecoach.co.uk/), Pauline Quirke Academy (https://www.pqacademy.com/) and (especially, though it is expensive) Rose Bruford theatre (https://www.bruford.ac.uk/courses/bruford-youth-theatre/)</p> <p>There is a lot of excellent theatre online- our youtube channel; www.youtube.com/bgsdrama has all of our excellent exam plays, and I have 'liked' a lot of other fantastic theatre videos and made playlists for a variety of technical roles.</p> <p>If you watch any theatre videos online, you can try to copy their techniques in your own plays.</p>
FBCS	<p>Watch the news and engage in current affairs which link to the topics we are studying and help you gain a better understanding of the issues.</p> <p>Use websites such as Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch to expand your knowledge of human rights violations around the world and how you can get involved in campaigning.</p> <p>Some suggested readings for you:</p> <p><i>I am Malala. The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban</i>, by Malala Yousafzai</p> <p><i>How not to be a boy</i>, by Robert Webb</p> <p><i>Migrant: The Journey of a Mexican Worker</i>, by José Manuel Mateo</p> <p><i>Bloody Foreigners: The Story of Immigration to Britain</i>, by Robert Winder</p> <p><i>Pigeon English</i>, by Stephen Kelman</p> <p>Any of these books recommended by Stonewall: https://www.stonewall.org.uk/sites/default/files/reading_list_secondary_lo_res_final_v2.pdf</p>
Computer Science	<p>Bebras practice challenges improve logical thinking - https://challenge.bebras.uk (TCS practice challenges are more advanced - https://challenge.tcsocc.uk/)</p> <p>Cyber Discovery challenge to practice programming and solve problems - https://www.joincyberdiscovery.com/</p> <p>Learn to program in a different language - https://www.sololearn.com/ https://www.codecademy.com/</p> <p>Practice your programming skills by solving challenges set by others - https://coderbyte.com/challenges</p>

HOUSE SHOWCASE

**Wednesday 3rd April 2019
7pm - 8.30pm**

**House Showcase is an opportunity for
you to see some of our entries from
House Music, Dance and Drama
and marks the end of the
Annual House Competition**

**Tickets for this Bexley Grammar School
Fundraising House event are
available in advance via
<https://yourboxoffice.co.uk/events>
(search for Bexley Grammar
House Showcase)
or by clicking on the link [here](#)**

**Tickets are priced
£4 adults/ £2 concessions**

**All money raised will go towards
supporting our Houses**

A whole new word ~ Year 10



Term 2 - Week 9

Art
Biology
Business Studies
Chemistry
Classics
Computer Science
Drama
DT

Art Criticism
Ecosystem
Motivation
Valence
Interrogative
Compression
Immersive
Component

English
Geography
History
Maths
MFL
Music
Physics
P.E.

Juxtaposition
Importance
Extremism
Integer
Subjunctive
Ground Bass
Supernova
Creativity

PA Millennium Club

Dear Parent/ Carer,


The Parents' Association runs a monthly Millennium Club draw to raise funds for the school. Each month we give out a first prize of £15.00 and a second prize of £10.00 plus a bonus £50.00 draw at Christmas. For just £5.00 your number will be entered into 12 draws. To be in with a chance of winning, please click on the link [here](#), complete form and return it, with your payment, by the end of this month.

Good Luck!

BGS Parents' Association



News items you may have missed



**BEXLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT
PRESENTS**

**BGS SPRING CONCERT -
'UNDER THE SEA!'**

**MONDAY 25TH MARCH 2019
6PM**

£6.50/£4.50 concessions

Tickets available from

www.yourboxoffice.co.uk or by clicking [here](#)



Parents'
Association

BGS Parents' Association (BGSPA) has yet again been able to secure reduced price ride wristbands for Adventure Island, Southend. Adventure Island is a great day out for all the family, with a wide choice of rides for all ages. Check it out at: www.adventureisland.co.uk.

Although entry is free, purchase of a wristband is required for unlimited use of all suitable rides. Once purchased, a wristband can be used on any one day in 2019 that Adventure Island is open.

For anyone who is over 1.2 metres tall, a wristband would cost £22.50 if purchased online (£32 if purchased at the ticket office on the day). The PA can provide these for **only £18.00**.

If you would like to purchase reduced price wristbands (**these are valid for 2019**) please click on the link [here](#) complete the form and follow the instructions.

BGS PA



Parents' Association



*See the Millennium
Club notice to sign up and
enter the next draw!*

Millennium Club Winners

January Winners

1st Prize - Number 64 - Bev Bailey
2nd Prize - Number 67 - Pamela Campbell

February Winners

1st Prize - Number 9 - Graham Threader
2nd Prize - Number 21 - Gary Russell

QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 29th March

Doors open 7 pm for 7:30 start

Tickets £5 per person.

Max. 8 per team

Bring your own food and drink

**Please click [HERE](#) to
register your team**



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Rated 5 stars - Jan 2019

Barracudas, Airfield Industrial Estate, Unit 9, Warboys, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, PE28 2SH

Forthcoming Events

March

Monday 25th

BGS Spring Concert ~ 'Under the Sea', 6pm (see notice)

Tuesday 26th

Year 10 Parents' Evening, 4pm - 6.30pm

Friday 29th

PA Quiz Night (see notice)



April

Tuesday 2nd

Power day 4

Wednesday 3rd

House Showcase, 7pm (see notice)

Friday 5th

Last school day of the Spring Term

Tuesday 23rd

First day of the Summer Term

Tuesday 23rd

Year 10 & Year 12 (Part i) Exam period and study leave begins

May

Friday 3rd

Year 10 & Year 12 (Part i) Exam period and study leave ends

June

Wednesday 26th

Awarding bodies designated GCSE 'contingency day' for examinations (see notice)