



BEXLEY
GRAMMAR
SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

www.bexleygs.co.uk

13th June 2019

Chinese Dragon Boat Festival

端午节





In the past, my knowledge of Chinese festivals and traditions was very narrow. I had heard about Chinese New Year before, and had a vague understanding of a few Chinese activities (due to many trips to Chinese restaurants during the New Year celebrations). However, in Year 9, we experienced a common activity for the mid autumn festival: making mooncakes. Additionally, in Year 8, we experienced the Chinese New Year, and created red envelopes which contained good luck messages for the New Year.

This week, we have been learning about the Dragon Boat Festival, also known as "Duanwu Jie" (端午节).

The festival occurs every year on the 5th day of the 5th month of the traditional Chinese calendar. On Monday, we experienced the Dragon Head and Tail dancing. We were shown an example video, and then we were given the task to try and create our own versions of the dance. I found it very enjoyable, as it was nice to be able to move around in sequence while wearing a cool costume. On Tuesday, we started creating our own information posters, which would be able to educate others about the common practices of the Dragon Boat Festival. My artistic skills are not the best, but I enjoyed attempting to create the posters.

In the future, I would like to learn more about the Qingming Festival, also known as "Tomb Sweeping Day". I want to learn about the significance of this festival, and to experience common practices and activities related to this festival.

Shannen Sarkodie, Year 10

Currently we are experiencing the dragon boat festival in class by taking part in the lion dances and making rice packets with bamboo leaves which was very interesting and a lot different to a normal lesson. We've also learnt about the dragon boat racing competition, which happens every two years where twenty five people take part in a race similar to rowing which is very popular in China.

In the future, I hope to learn more about these Chinese cultural events and take part in fun activities.

Ethan Robinson, Year 10



Power Day 5 - The Wider World

The last Power day of this academic year was a huge success. This was also the first day led by Mrs Mitten, after Mrs Pearman left as Power day Co-ordinator at Easter 2019. Students took part in a wide variety of activities, from learning about fair trade products, budgeting and managing their finances for the world beyond BGS to Taiko Japanese drumming.

All staff stepped up, delivering a successful day where students across all age groups found the day very enjoyable and useful. The Year 7s and 9s had a real taste of Japanese culture and the year 8s dipped into Indian culture with some beautiful food and exceptional drumming as well as being educated by our excellent staff at BGS teaching them about fair trade and the distance food travels before arriving on our plates. The Year 10s had a mixed day where they learnt how to budget for the future with an external company, they all felt prepared for trips, some saw a bit of theatre or were musically cultured as well as going to Danson Lake for water sport activities. Then our lovely Year 12s really prepared themselves for their universities in writing their personal statements and UCAS applications.

Mrs Mitten, Power Day Coordinator



YOUNG Mi MINDS

NON-UNIFORM DAY

FRIDAY 21ST JUNE 2019

£1 SUGGESTED DONATION

Year 13 Prom Night

On Sunday 9th June, the Year 13 celebrated their successes at Bexley Grammar School at their prom at Cafe De Paris in London. The students donned their glad rags and arrived at the glamorous venue to be greeted with a fabulous 3 course meal, followed by a fantastic party. Many staff attended the event to celebrate with students and wave them a final farewell as they move on to their next steps. The evening was a huge success, with many not leaving the dance floor all night!

I would like to thank the prom committee for all their help in organising, Helen Norman, who contributed her Jack Petchey money to the event and of course, Cafe De Paris for hosting a wonderful night.

Year 13 has been a truly special group of students. They have proved to be great leaders within the school community and they will be missed by all. Congratulations on all you have achieved and we wish you every success in the future (please make sure you come back to visit).

Miss Leffen, Director of Studies, Year 13



IB Class of 2019 and their amazing Creativity, Action, Service (CAS)!

The IB aims to create ‘the all-round’ student and one that can reflect fully. Recently, we have been featuring some examples of the amazing experiences and projects the Year 13 have been involved in and their reflections on their involvement:

Peer Mentor

Within Bexley Grammar School there are three major roles open to application. They consist of Senior Prefect, Peer Mentor and House Captain. Sixth Formers are allowed to apply for any one of the positions when the time comes, but students are only allowed to hold one of these very important roles.

Reflection

Being a Peer Mentor has been thoroughly enjoyable as I have loved helping the younger students and getting to know the wider school community a bit more, especially in my final year of school. With exams fast approaching, I think without this role, I would have been far too wrapped up in my own worries and would not have involved myself with the rest of the school; talking to younger students not only allowed me to help them, but allowed them to help me see that some things are more important than stressing as my words to them could be applied to myself.

As a Peer Mentor, I have really enjoyed seeing the Year 7 form that I speak to weekly, grow more confident and settle into the new school environment. Planning sessions with students has helped me to be more organised as I know someone is relying on me and after a while I saw that being organised made the sessions much better as I knew what to talk about and what issues to address. My favourite part of talking with my peers was their relief having spoken to someone and allowing them to get a problem off their chest. Throughout the year, I have come to notice when someone needs advice, but also when they just need someone they trust to listen to them. I think this is a valuable skill as some people just need to talk about a problem in order to see a solution to it, whereas others need guidance and reassurance: recognising this will be helpful to me in future as in the workplace there are different types of managers and in university I will meet all types of people.

Overall, this experience has been amazing for me as I feel that I have been able to help some students with any issues they have come across, while also making myself more aware of what other people are having problems with. I have come to realise how important it is to talk about how you are feeling and to seek help if you need it: I will be more wary of those around me and offer a helping hand to anyone in need.



Win £5,000 for your school's library

Help us win £5,000 for the school library!

Our school needs you! Help us win £5,000 of National Book Tokens for the school library - and get £100 for yourself! Enter the competition online, it only takes a minute:

<http://www.nationalbooktokens.com/schools>

Thanks,

Mrs Carey, School Librarian

NATIONAL
BOOK
tokens

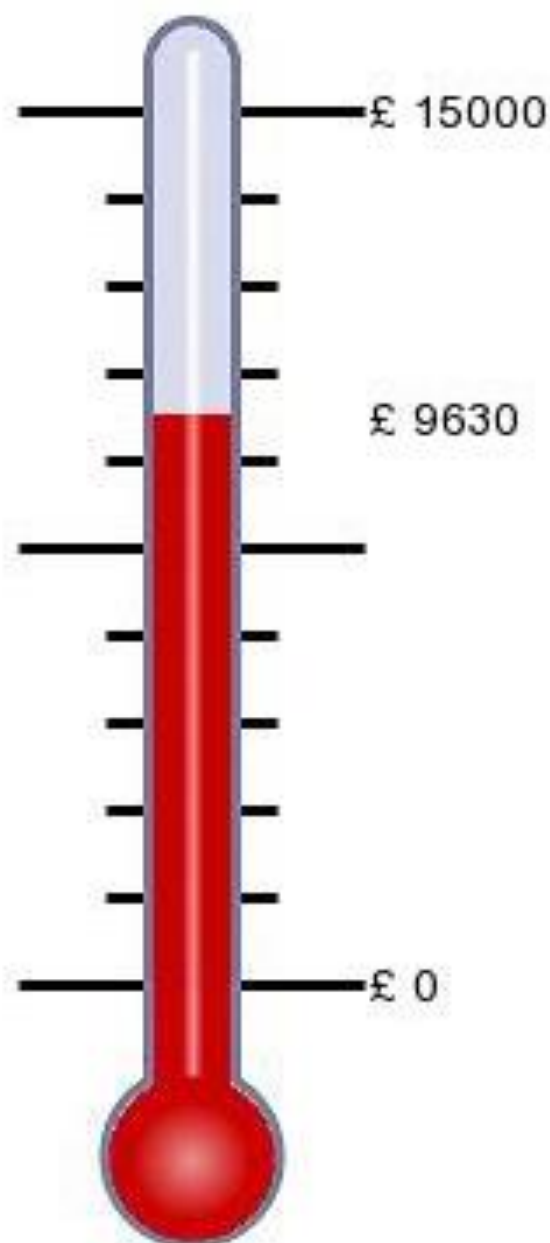
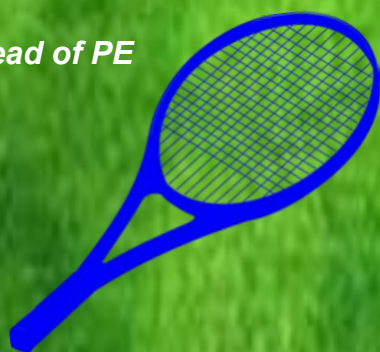
#SuPportOurcouRTS

We have been humbled by the generosity of our families, friends and staff as we work towards our target to resurface the tennis courts. We simply cannot afford to complete this project without your help.

If you would like to donate, but haven't yet, please scan the QR code below or visit <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fund/supportourcourts>

Thank you,

M Lines, Head of PE



Sing 'Hallelujah'!

SISTER ACT

Music by
ALAN MENKEN

Lyrics by
GLENN SLATER

Book by
CHERI STEINKELLNER & BILL STEINKELLNER

Additional Book Material by DOUGLAS CARTER BEANE

Based on the Touchstone Pictures Motion Picture "Sister
Act" written by Joseph Howard

**Bexley Grammar School invites you to come
and celebrate, raise your hands and spread
the love around for our musical, 'Sister Act'!**

Performances will start at 7pm on:

Tuesday 2 July

Wednesday 3 July - Gala Performance

Thursday 4 July

Friday 5 July

Tickets on sale at

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

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International
(Europe). All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI Europe
www.mtishows.co.uk



BEXLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

JAZZ EVENING

9.7.2019, 6PM START

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
WWW.YOURBOXOFFICE.CO.UK
OR BY CLICKING ON THE LINK

[HERE](#)

£6/£4 CONCESSIONS

Forthcoming Events

June

Monday 17th

Year 11 Book Return between 11am and 12.30pm

Tuesday 18th

Year 8 Diploma Celebration Evening

Friday 21st

Non-Uniform Day in aid of Young Minds (see notice ~ please bring £1)

**Wednesday 26th ~ Awarding bodies designated GCSE
'contingency day' for examinations**

July

Tuesday 2nd

Sister Act Performance, 7pm (see notice)

Wednesday 3rd

Sister Act Performance (Gala Night), 7pm (see notice)

Thursday 4th

Sister Act Performance, 7pm (see notice)

Friday 5th

Sister Act Performance, 7pm (see notice)

Tuesday 9th

Jazz Evening, 6pm (see notice)