



# Year 9 visit to the Natural History Museum

On Wednesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019, the German half of Year 9 of BGS went on a trip to the Natural History Museum to visit the Volcanoes and Earthquakes gallery.

The day started off with everyone gathering in the Canteen, getting our booklets and then heading off to Welling Station. From there, we took the southern train to London Cannon Street and then took the tube to South Kensington Station. We went through the station and then



entered the Museum. The groups were then split up and a half of us went to see the gallery whilst the other half got to see a live presentation on the different types of tectonic plates and how they lead to natural disasters. I was in the group that got to see the gallery first. We went up the elevator to the gallery and were told that we should finish the booklets within an hour and then we set off to look for the information that we had to find in order to complete the booklet. Some of this information required us to go around and look for it and some required us to see a video and answer questions. An hour later, most of us had finished the first part of our booklet and we went for lunch. We were allowed to visit the rest of the museum during lunch so some of us went to visit the gift shop whilst others went to explore.

About an hour later, my group gathered under the skeleton of a whale and we then went to the Attenborough studio where we were given a presentation on the different types of tectonic plates and how they caused natural disasters. We learnt that earthquakes occur from conservative plate boundaries and that volcanoes erupt from destructive plate boundaries. An hour later, we had finished the presentation and were on our way to South Kensington Station where we took the tube back to London Cannon Street and then the train to Welling station. From here we were dismissed and went home.

Overall, I really enjoyed the trip and learnt a lot more than I had already known about tectonic plates and about natural disasters.

*Siddhartha Poudel, Year 9*



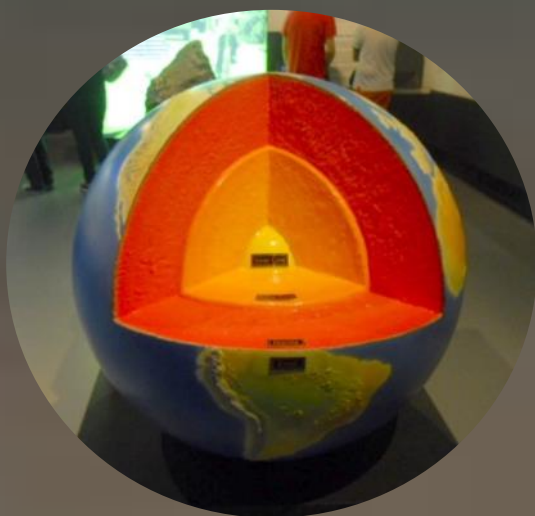
I enjoyed my trip to the Natural History Museum. I had been there lots of times before with my family and my primary school. It was exciting to see all the new exhibits (such as The Moon) and I liked showing my friends around the ones I'd already seen, like the Human Biology display. We spent most of our time in the natural disasters exhibit as it was our current topic in Geography. It was really interesting, and my favourite part was the Earthquake Simulator as we were able to experience what the Kobi earthquake felt like. I also enjoyed the way up to the exhibit as we got to ride an escalator into a giant planet. We had lots of time to spend there and I got to pay close attention to the information. It was fun filling in the booklet and I learnt lots of new things that will definitely help me in Geography.

*Lotte Robinson, Year 9*

On Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019, classes 9E, 9F, 9G and 9H visited the Natural History Museum located in London, South Kensington. Currently, in Geography, we are studying natural disasters, in particular, volcanoes and earthquakes. We are also studying their causes, the main being tectonic plates. The world is split unevenly into pieces, almost like a jigsaw and when two pieces, rub together, it can cause natural disasters like volcanoes, earthquakes or tsunamis. They can also create mountains and make new sea floors. We met at school and got the train and the tube to the Natural History Museum. When we arrived, we were greeted by an amazing escalator that ran through a lit up model of the earth: we reached the top and using all of the amazing models, displays and facts around the room, filled in a booklet which would help us remember facts for lessons that we needed to know. Inside the gallery, as well as interactive quizzes, there was also an earthquake simulator to commemorate an earthquake that hit Japan in 2010: the ground shook violently and although it was nothing compared to the actual event, it was still terrifying. After lunch, we had some free time to explore, so we went to the museum shop where we were presented with lots of Geographical products that we could buy; including NASA merchandise, binoculars, crystals, microscopes and even merchandise to remember our visit plus lots more. Next, we visited the Space section where we were faced with an incredible model of the Moon, accompanied by astonishing facts you would never know! Lastly, we went to the animal/bird section where we saw multiple figures of different types of mammals. Afterwards, we headed to an interesting presentation where we learnt about all of the causes and effects of earthquakes and volcanoes. We were also taught about some of the amazing technology scientists are using to help prevent, get closer to and tell us when earthquakes and volcanoes are coming. This talk included lots of practical's and we even got to make \*Oobleck to represent the Earth's mantle. Finally, we travelled home. Overall, I really enjoyed this trip because I learned so many amazing facts that I never knew and it really broadened my knowledge. It also opened my mind up to the possibilities of Geography and Science for the future. I would fully recommend visiting the Natural History Museum.

### ***Scarlett Barber, Year 9***

\*Oobleck is a substance that acts like a liquid, and can be poured, but that acts like a solid when you apply force to it by pushing it or squeezing it. It's made by mixing cornflour (also called cornstarch) with water.



## Sixth Form Culture Club Trip: Come From Away

On the 18<sup>th</sup> September, a group of students saw “Come From Away: The Musical” at the Phoenix Theatre, the most recent winner of Best New Musical at the Olivier awards, a title which it most surely deserves. Set on the island of Gander, Newfoundland in Canada, the play relates the real-life story of a small community overwhelmed with stranded travellers from across the world in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks. With cast members taking on two or more roles representing people from all cultures and backgrounds, the play provides a truly transformative experience, while at its core highlighting the immanence of compassion in times of darkness.

*Yingfei Chen, Year 12*



COME  
FROM  
AWAY



Not only have we been really busy in school with STEM activities ranging from science club to robotics, there are a number of events this autumn that I would like to draw your attention to.

The Royal Institution runs a huge variety of events for families and individuals to attend. These include evening lectures on a huge variety of topics such as the effectiveness of DNA testing or even whether the 'baby boomers' stole your future! The world-famous Christmas Lectures are now running their ballot and we have entered to try and win our students some tickets! Fingers crossed for the draw later in the month! If you are interested in attending any lectures or family days, please use this link

<https://www.rigb.org/families>

The **Imperial STEM Potential Program** is currently taking applicants. Students in Year 10 and Year 12 should apply now (closing date for Year 12 is Oct 13<sup>th</sup> and Year 10s is Oct 27<sup>th</sup>). This is an incredible program of support available to only 90 students across London who will attend three events including workshops, lectures and networking. You must apply now! Good luck!

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/be-inspired/student-recruitment-and-outreach/schools-and-colleges/students/on-campus-activities/programmes/stem-potential-programme/>

*Ms Lusted, Stem Coordinator*



## Bexley Grammar Periodic Table Mural Wins Art Competition

**Element Kent is a week of FREE events in Whitstable at The Horsebridge Arts Centre's Creative Laboratory, celebrating the International Year of the Periodic Table. Running from 21<sup>st</sup>- 27<sup>th</sup> October.**

Part of this program is an art exhibition which is going to feature Bexley Grammar School's periodic table mural! We have been selected among a number of entries to be displayed alongside local artists.

A great opportunity to visit a free local event, brush up your chemistry knowledge and see our amazing work featured!

*Ms Lusted  
Science Department*



## Year 11 Work Experience

Good luck to all Year 11 students embarking on their work experience placements from the 14<sup>th</sup> October. I hope you make excellent use of the opportunity and gain a good understanding of the profession you are working in.

Remember that you are representing Bexley Grammar School, and ensure you portray yourselves and the school in a good light.

If you have any concerns during your placements, please do not hesitate to contact me, or Mrs Aspill.

*Mr Martin, Director of Studies, Year 11*

Good Luck!

## PE News

Congratulations to our fabulous Year 7 Netball team who secured a 6-0 win against Harris Academy Falconwood on Tuesday in their first ever match. Netball club has been very popular this year with over 40 girls attending on a weekly basis. In training, the girls are going from strength to strength, showing determination and focus to improve their skills.

A squad of 11 was selected for Tuesday's match, where the team displayed some fast through court play. The team worked hard on their defensive skills, which saw us make lots of interceptions. The players of the match were Alice and Imogen for their fantastic shooting skills and quick play around the circle!

Well done all- keep it up!

*Miss Leffen, PE Department*



# World Mental Health Day

The [World Health Organisation](http://www.who.int) recognises World Mental Health Day on 10 October

BGS students marked World Mental Health Day, this week, by considering how best to support their own and each other's mental health. Mental health awareness green ribbon pin badges went on sale at reception, for just £1 each, with proceeds going to the Mental Health Foundation. By wearing a badge, students and staff have been seeking to reduce stigma and promoting the benefits of talking about mental health.



Parents and carers may be interested in the Mental Health Foundation's numerous "how to" guides, all available to download for free, via the link below, covering topics such as "how to overcome fear and anxiety" and "how to look after your mental health".

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/publications>

This week numerous students took the opportunity to practise mindfulness, as promoted by the Mindfulness in Schools Project and the SchoolsSitTogether initiative. The link below provides parents and carers with an example, mindfulness audio download.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/qucreqc8xoj3u5n/AABtU-7SDzI3xXgSAKB9VRVpa?dl=0>



## A whole new word ~ Year 10

Term 1 - Week 5



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

Juxtaposition  
 Homeostasis  
 Protectionism  
 Homologous Series  
 Romanisation  
 Subroutine  
 Parody  
 Conceptualised  
 Feasibility  
 Humanism  
 Bisect  
  
 Major and minor keys  
 Radioactive  
 Optimising

## News items you may have missed

## Science Club

Science Club has started with a bang!! The first week we investigated explosions using hydrogen balloons. In the second session even more keen year 7 students arrived (word must have got round) and they made lava lamps. Next time, students will be challenged in their problem solving skills and creative thinking as they design a way of protecting a precious egg from a high drop. Let's see how they cope in that egg-citing challenge!

*Ms Lusted, Science Club*

I really enjoy attending science club as you get to experiment and create lots of fun things! In the last session, we made lava lamps; it was brilliant to make them ourselves and see them fizzing inside. Science club is also a great way to try things you may never usually do in lessons.

*Zoe Allen, Year 7*



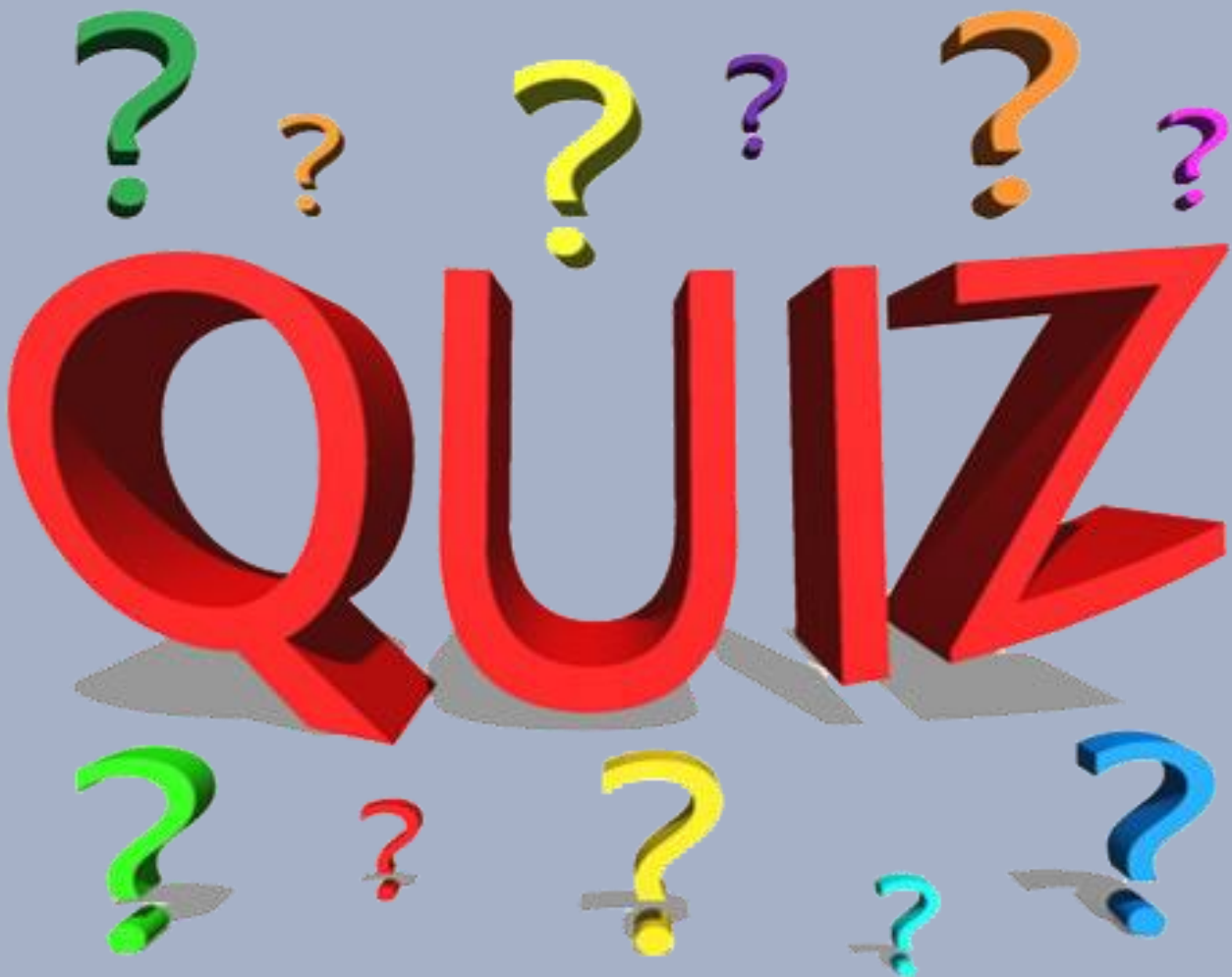




# QUIZ NIGHT

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October**  
**Doors open 7 pm for 7:30 start**  
**Tickets £5 per person.**  
**Max. 8 per team**  
**Bring your own food and drink**

**To register your team and complete the  
Quiz Night booking form  
please click on the link [here](#)**

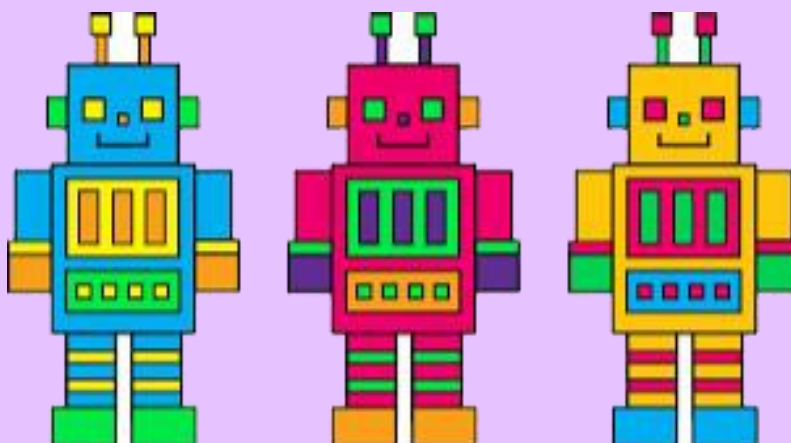


## Robot Club

As technology marches inexorably on, the robot apocalypse predicted in the Terminator movies is surely just around the corner. But at Bexley Grammar School, preparations to deal with this threat are well in hand. Year 7 and 8 students at Robot Club have been building and programming their own machines to either beat the robots or, failing that, join them. Pictured here is one such device built by team 'Infinity Gauntlet' recently. It uses a wrist mounted micro-computer to send instructions to a display screen mounted inside a 'Virtual Reality Heads-Up Display' helmet, constructed from high-tech cardboard and Sellotape!

To the casual observer, Robot Club might seem like it is just a brilliant way to learn about building fun robots using the BBC Micro: bit controller and some simple electronic components. But of course, this is just a ruse to throw any nosey Artificial Intelligences off the scent. We are really humanity's best hope of survival. Find us in H14, every Thursday after school.

*Mr Villazon, Robot Club*



## Forthcoming Events

### October

Friday 11<sup>th</sup>  
PA Quiz Night (see notice)



Monday 14<sup>th</sup>  
Year 11 Work Experience Commences

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>  
Power day 1

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>  
Open Morning and Evening for entry into Year 7 Sept 2020 ~ see website for details

Friday 18<sup>th</sup>  
Last school day before half term

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> to Friday 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**Half Term ~ School closed to students**

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**First school day following half term ~ all students return to school**

## **November**

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**Sixth Form Open Evening for entry into Year 12 Sept 2020 ~ see website for details**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**Power day 2**