

### **NEWSLETTER**

www.bexleygs.co.uk

31st October 2019

# Year 7s perform at the annual Music Concert

SATURDAY SOTH NOVEMBER 11AM-3PM

BGS PA
CHRISTMAS
FAIR

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, everyone in Year 7 participated in their first (and hopefully not last!) BGS Music Concert. Each class performed different songs for their parents, from Rhythm of Life to Rolling in the Deep, and it was great to see everyone looking so happy and enthusiastic. In between the class songs we listened to some solos from the bravest of the Year 7s! From Joseph Hall on piano to Alex Anastasov performing Greensleeves on the guitar, we were very impressed! The standard was very high, and again we had very different pieces, all of which showcased them in the best ways. And to finish, a gospel medley sung by the whole year group, really showing the hard work the students and music teachers had put in. Everyone really enjoyed themselves, and it was a great concert overall. Well done Year 7!

Maddy Hosier, Year 9 Music Prefect

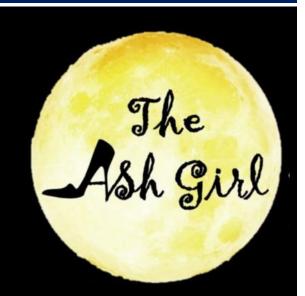


## School Play ~ The Ash Girl by Timberlake Wertenbaker

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December, 7pm Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December, 5pm Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 7pm

Adults £8.50
Children £5
Family (4 tickets, at least 2 children) £20
Click here for tickets

An adaptation of **CINDERELLA** with an inspiring message to us all about believing in ourselves and not giving in to negativity. The show has more substance and depth than the traditional fairy-tale, but still has all the main events and characters for it to appeal to younger children (and the children within us). Whatever it is you want from this show, the shoe will definitely fit you!





View Rehearsal footage here (edited by Samuel Parsons, Year 8)

A young girl's father has gone missing, and her mother and sisters mistreat her. A new foreign Prince has arrived and is throwing a Ball, but will Ash Girl go? Or will she stay at home feeling sorry for herself? Meanwhile, in the forest, evil spirits are planning to affect mankind with their negative virtues- can love conquer all?

Featuring students from Years 7-13, you can enjoy the breadth of talent as they share this heartening, positive story with you.

We would expect this event to sell out, so act fast, because your Fairy Godmother can't magic you an extra ticket.

We have introduced a 'family ticket' which allows you bring your loved ones at a reduced rate. We also encourage you to come to the Thursday show at 5pm, meaning younger children do not need to stay up too late and *risk their carriage turning back into a Pumpkin*.

If the link above does not work, go to yourboxoffice.co.uk and search 'Bexley'.

Mr Otley, Director, The Ash Girl





BEXLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

# DJ SHOWCASE



MAIN HALL, BEXLEY GRAMMAR

SCHOO

LIVE PERFORMANCES FROM OUR DJ STUDENTS, WITH FUTURE DJ TUTOR

£1 ON THE DOOR TUES 12 NOVEMBER

4 - 5PM

£1 ON THE DOOR

TOIN US FOR AN HOUR OF DI AND DANCE

#### **Young Enterprise Team 2019 - 2020**

On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, members of the Year 12 Young Enterprise (YE) team went on a visit into central London to attend the YE introduction event. This was held at one of Mintel's buildings. Mintel is a company that specializes in predicting where certain markets will be next, using their data & market research.

YE aims to assist students, such as ourselves, to develop key employability & entrepreneurial skills. They also help us understand how business works and prepares us for the future. At this event, we were given a presentation with important tips for a successful start-up and they offered us an insight into how YE will give us opportunities along the way.

A guest speaker, Husayn Kassai, who co-founded the company Onfido whilst attending Oxford University, was invited to give us his experience and share knowledge from it. His emphasis was on innovation and collaboration as core values for a team & when creating a product.



enterprise

Travelling with friends who are all motivated and excited for this project is amazing in itself, sharing ideas and thoughts throughout the trip.

After having relayed this to the rest of the team at our meeting on Monday, we looked forward to our first-ever fundraiser. Our bake sale turned out to be a huge success, and we sold out very quickly. I am extremely pleased with the outcome and really proud of the hard work from every single person in the team.

I hope everyone will continue to support us in the future.

Thank you,

Aisha Abba, Year 12





#### **Trinity Schools Book Award Reading Group**

Our reading group is off! We have had our first two meetings and already enjoyed one of the Trinity Schools Book Award books on the theme of 'Stand Up, Speak Out'.

Based on our first impressions, we were expecting *Beyond the Wall* by Tanya Landman to be our favourite, and for *Mike* by Andrew Norriss to be our least favourite, but after the first week of reading the books this has turned out not to be the case, proving that we really shouldn't judge a book by its cover.



I have also been in contact with the author, Nicky Singer, whose "emotional, gripping and dystopian" (our students' three word book review) novel *The Survival Game* is part of the book award, and she has kindly sent me some postcards for the students. She has also confirmed that she will be one of the authors that we get to meet at the awards ceremony in March, which the students are already looking forward to.

#### Mrs Carey, Librarian







#### A whole new word ~ Year 10

#### Week 8

Art Biology

**Business Studies** 

**Chemistry Classics** 

**Computer Science** 

Drama DT

**Economics** 

**English** 

Geography

**History Maths** 

MFL Music

**Physics** 

P.E.

Complementary

**Denaturation** 

**Privatisation** 

**Titre** 

**Sportula** 

Protocol

Metatheatre

Coagulation

**Ceteris Paribus** 

Curmudgeonly

**Enclave** 

**Vaccination** 

Variable

Summarise

**Symphony Orchestra** 

Transducer Proximal

#### **PE News**

It's beyond time to update our honours boards. If you've been selected to represent your county, region or nation (!) - please make sure that Mr Lines knows, and he can then update our honours board so that everyone can celebrate your success and be inspired by it. We're very proud of our representative honours students, so make sure you get the credit you are due.



#### **Year 11 Work Experience**

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Mrs Eacott and I are extremely proud to report back on what amazing jobs the Year 11 pupils did on their work experience placements. After many employers were keen to keep hold of them, we were pleased to see all the pupils return to Bexley Grammar School for the next phase of their GCSE studies.

The feedback from employers has been incredibly positive about the Year 11 pupils with many commending them for their punctuality, smartness, politeness and general work ethic. Pupils were praised for their maturity with employers shocked at their ages and ability to use their own initiative and adapt to the demands of the working environment. Employers have been quick to express their desire to have Bexley Grammar School pupils working with them in the future.

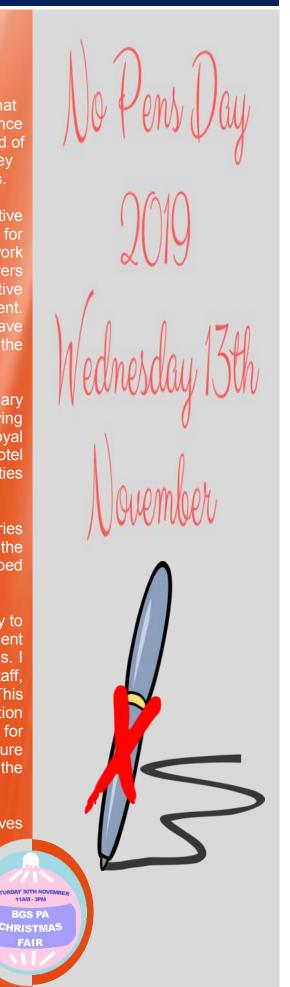
Placements were diverse and ranged from local primary schools to HMCTS Central Criminal Court to Falcon Flying Services. Mars Wrigley Confectionery, UK, The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity, Sky Sports and Corinthia Hotel London are examples of some other fantastic opportunities Year 11 enjoyed.

Pupils will be using their completed work experience diaries at the next Power Day in November to further discuss the opportunity each pupil had, as well as the skills developed whilst on their placements.

My thanks go out to all parents for their support, especially to those who assisted their son/daughter in finding a placement through the use of their own employers, family and friends. I would also like to thank Bexley Grammar School staff, specifically Mrs Aspill and Ms Caley-Gardiner. This opportunity would not be possible without their dedication and hard work in assisting the pupils as they initially apply for placements, liaising with parents and employers to ensure that all the necessary paperwork is in place prior to the placement starting.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the pupils themselves who proved such a credit to Bexley Grammar School. I am sure that the experience was beneficial and they have taken a lot from their first opportunity to demonstrate the wealth of talent they have to offer employers.

Mr Martin Director of Studies, Year 11



#### **Year 8 News**

Dear Year 8.

Here is a link for <u>Year 8 Stretch, Challenge & Extension Activities</u>. I am aware that you are all working hard already and these are by no means compulsory!

This document has been set up so that if you have a subject that you have a particular interest in then there are some additional resources for you to use. Alternatively, if you are struggling in a subject you may want to consider reviewing some of the suggested exercises available on here in addition to the homework you are set in an attempt to boost your Attainment in that area.

I hope that you find this useful! If you have any questions, please come and see me about it Kind regards,

Mr Mackle, Director of Studies, Year 8

#### Attendance News

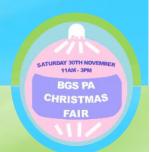
It is very easy for a student's attendance to slip, especially with the odd absence here and there.

Please try to arrange medical appointments outside of school hours and/or in the school holidays. If this is not possible, to minimise the effect that they have on your child's attendance, please try and arrange for them during your child's lunch period.

#### Mrs Jeffery, Attendance Office

Green:	Attendance is 95% or above. This means your child is on track for an excellent year. You are ensuring your child's school success and setting them off to a good flying start. Well Done!
Amber:	Attendance is between 90% and 94.9%. This is less than expected and school is monitoring your child's attendance. Less than 97% attendance over the school year indicates at least two weeks of school missed.
Grey:	Attendance is between 87% and 89.9%. This is worrying as your child is missing out on a lot of their education. Poor attendance will make it harder for them to progress in their learning. Less than 90% attendance over the school year indicates at least four weeks of school lost.
Red:	Attendance is between 86.9% or below. This is very worrying, there are serious concerns regarding your child's attendance and they are a persistent absentee. This means the education welfare service may be involved and if attendance does not improve you may be issued a penalty warning notice.

## **Important Notice Overseas School Trips from January 2020**



In preparation for Brexit, if your child is taking part in an overseas trip from January 2020, please insure that your child has 6 months remaining on their passport at time of travel.

Mrs Gallagher, Finance Office

#### **Hot Teenage Topics**

From time to time, the Pastoral team at BGS come across websites or articles we think might be useful for parents to see. We deal with a wide variety of issues outside of academics and know that these can sometimes be tough to manage, not just in school but at home, too. We have no affiliation with the producers of such materials and they do not necessarily reflect our opinions. Our aim is to provide some helpful guidance on hot topics affecting our teenagers.

Here are this week's links:

https://www.relate.org.uk/relationship-help/help-family-life-and-parenting/parenting-teenagers

Need some advice about your child's behaviour?

Young Minds offers support for parents or guardians concerned about mood changes, behaviour issues, or mental health problems.

T: 0808 802 5544 Mon-Fri 9:30am-4pm

E: parents@youngminds.org.uk

W: youngminds.org.uk/parents

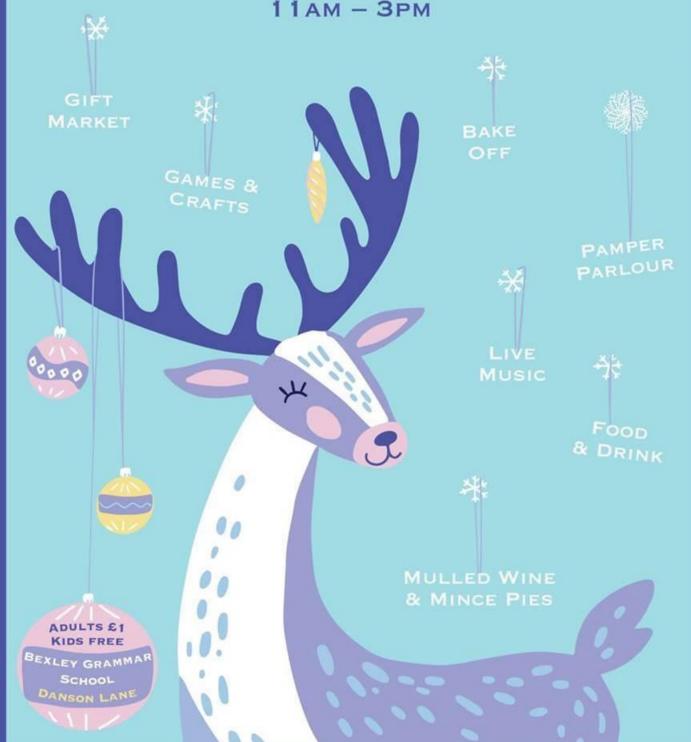
#### The Pastoral Team





## CHRISTMAS FAIR

SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER 11AM - 3PM



#### **Forthcoming Events**

#### **October**

Friday 1st

Closing date for entries into the Annual BSG Christmas Card Competition



#### November

Monday 4th ~ Week A

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>

DJ Showcase, 4pm - 5pm (see notice for ticket information)



Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> No Pens Day 2019



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

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>
PA Christmas Fair, 11am- 3pm (see notice)





#### **December**

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> ~ The Ash Girl Performance (see notice for ticket information)

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> ~ The Ash Girl Performance (see notice for ticket information)



Friday 6<sup>th</sup> ~ The Ash Girl Performance (see notice for ticket information)