

NEWSLETTER



16th January 2020

www.bexleygs.co.uk



BGS Success at the Regional Jack Petchey Pitch Perfect Grand Final

On Sunday 12th January, members of our Senior Choir travelled to Barking to perform at the Regionals of the Jack Petchey Pitch Perfect Grand Final. In June 2019, we auditioned for the competition and made it from 30 groups to the final 16. We performed at the Regionals with 7 other choral groups, and were amazed that we made it to the final 8!

Senior Choir also had the added bonus of being able to perform first at the Regionals, which we kicked off with 'It's My Life' by Bon Jovi. This one is a firm favourite of ours, which we regularly take on tour. The choreography and overall sound of the choir was excellent, and special mention goes out to Ray Morgan, who beatboxed for the choir and helped keep the beat.

We were a little nervous for our second performance, Bad Guy, as it is so exposed. Nevertheless, Senior Choir once again rose to the occasion and wowed the audience.

We were all invited on stage at the end and were absolutely thrilled to be the first group announced as Grand Final participants. We are so pleased that we will be performing at Cadogan Hall on Sunday 1st March 2020! Keep an eye out for updates from the Music Department - we will let you know as soon as tickets are available for sale if you can come and support us!



A HUGE well done to the BGS Senior Choir for acting as professional musicians and working relentlessly to pull off a rewarding performance. Enjoy the Grand Final - wouldn't it be lovely to be crowned winners?!

Mrs Goddard, Head of Music



Japanese Club

Tuesdays, from 3.05pm ~ 4.00pm

On Tuesday 10th December, many Year 7s took part in Japanese Club. We made sushi with the help of Mrs. Everett and Sixth Formers. First, we had to get our sticky rice, egg (already fried), cucumber, tuna, and seaweed. We had to assemble these on our makisu (rolling mat) and roll them up. After holding our sushi there, we would unroll the mat and cut the sushi into slices.



It's not only a sushi making session. We have various interesting activities. Please join our Japanese Club. The club starts at 3:05pm and ends at 4:00pm on a Tuesday. Hope to see you there next time! (We will be doing origami!)



Jesse Oshogwe, Year 7



Year 12 Chemistry Higher Education Conference at Queen Mary University London

On the 15th January, current IB Chemistry Higher Level Year 12 students (Cecilia, Samuel, Asmiga, Damilola, Felicity and Aasaana) were given an amazing opportunity to experience a day in the life of a Queen Mary University London student by the University's Chemistry Department. The opportunity was supported by the Royal Society of Chemistry.

The experience was insightful and extremely helpful surrounding the topic of University life. One of the biggest opportunities was a short, but highly in-depth, discussion held by the head of Queen Mary Chemistry Department in which she gave insight and shed light upon how University applications work and the real keys to making Personal Statements successful, this topic was, initially, something that caused me and many of my peers a lot of stress so seeing it get acknowledged was extremely helpful.

The highlight of the day was when our group of six BGS students won the quiz competition that was held there. The reason it felt amazing is due to the fact that it was very unexpected and that we actually won a prize. The experience was an all-around success and felt more eye-opening than I initially expected. I would wholeheartedly encourage both, current and future, university hopefuls to take up this and all future experiences regarding university.

Thank you to Mrs Moore for organising this event.

Aasanna Adhikari, Year 12





Chinese Students visit BGS

Recently, the whole of Chinese Year 9 class took part in an international Integration scheme. In order to deeply explore the target culture which is also associated with the IB themes such as the identity with lifestyle, tradition and customs also experience etc.

The following interview was taken by Hannah Kitchen and Christabel Masaba, both in Year 10.



How is school in England different to school in China?

In Chinese school the day starts a lot earlier, at 6:30am, and finishes at 5:30pm, so the school hours are a lot longer. After school, we also do school work until 12am. In England the school day is a lot shorter. However, like in England, we have school from Monday to Friday. We get homework every day.



Do you think English students do enough work?

No, we think English students should do more work and studying and have more homework. In China, we have 10 lessons of 40 minutes, in England there are only 6 lessons of 50 minutes. Also in England, the lessons are always very noisy, which we don't like. Chinese students are more hardworking.

Can you use your mobile phones?

In school, we cannot use our phones at all, we don't take them to school. If the teacher sees our phone they will throw it away.

What kind of exams do you have, how long are they?

We have exams every day, they are two hours long. We hate it, but we do well in the exams. We also get a lot of homework, but we like it a lot more than our exams.





What do you do on the weekend?

From 6am to 7pm we study and do work. We don't watch any TV or have social media as we don't have time, but do play some basketball. We do like studying, but don't like exams. Studying means get good grades.

How do you celebrate Chinese New Year?

It is our main festival, so my friends and family come over and we have a party. We eat dumplings and drink Coca-Cola and juice. We do red envelopes, and write good luck messages on the front, inside we get ¥10,000, which is £1,115!!



PE News

Well done to the Year 7 and 8 boys, who won the Bexley sports hall athletics competition on Wednesday. They now advance to the regional finals in February.

The Year 9 netball team produced an excellent display on Tuesday, beating Trinity 20-3 in a very strong performance.

Well done girls!

Mr Lines, Head of PE



BGS Wellbeing Website

As we continue to work to support student wellbeing, aligning our endeavours with the recommended areas of focus included in the Wellbeing Award for Schools, we have taken the opportunity to share our work in more detail with all stakeholders via the school's website. Our wellbeing page now contains our wellbeing vision statement, our wellbeing action plan and our wellbeing strategy, as outlined in our school improvement plan, along with wellbeing advice and signposted resources. Please take the opportunity to explore this section of our website. Please also share your feedback, along with suggested areas for further improvement, by completing our annual wellbeing questionnaire, due to be emailed to all stakeholders later this term. [BGS Wellbeing Website](#)

Mrs Ellis, Assistant Head





News items you may have missed

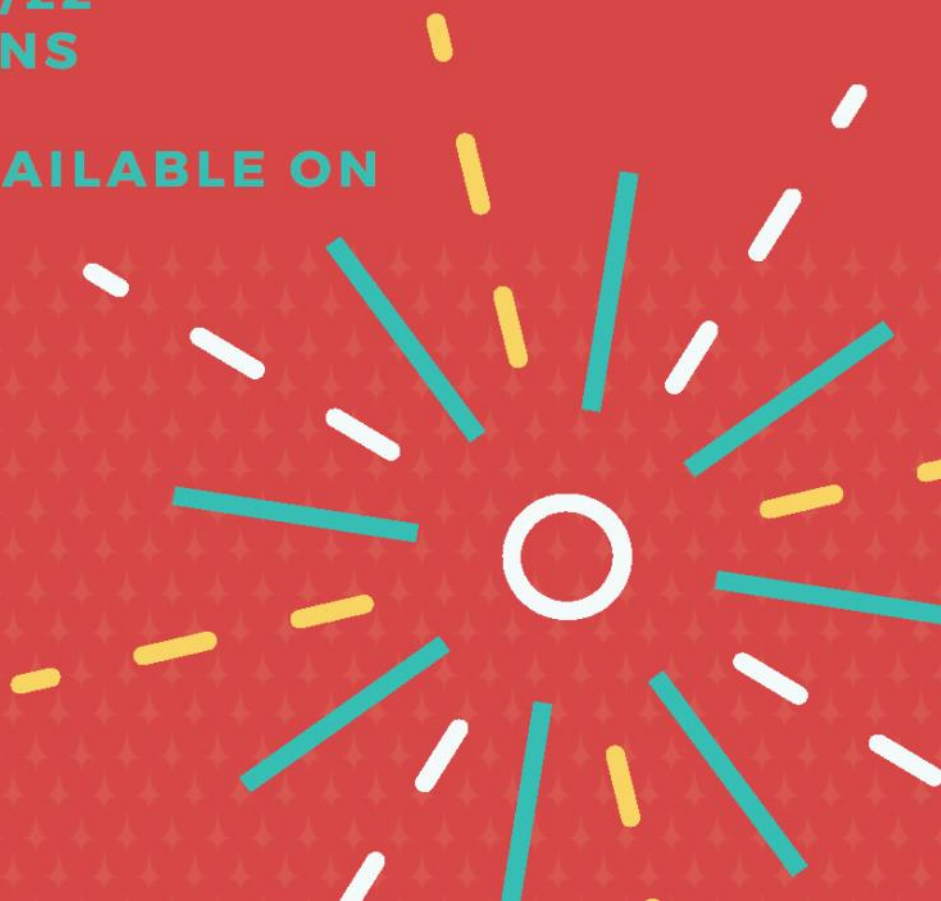
**BEXLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL MUSIC
DEPARTMENT PRESENTS**

KS4 SHOWCASE CONCERT

28TH JANUARY 2020, 6PM

**TICKETS: £3/£2
CONCESSIONS**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE ON
THE DOOR.**





Parents'
Association

DONATION REQUEST



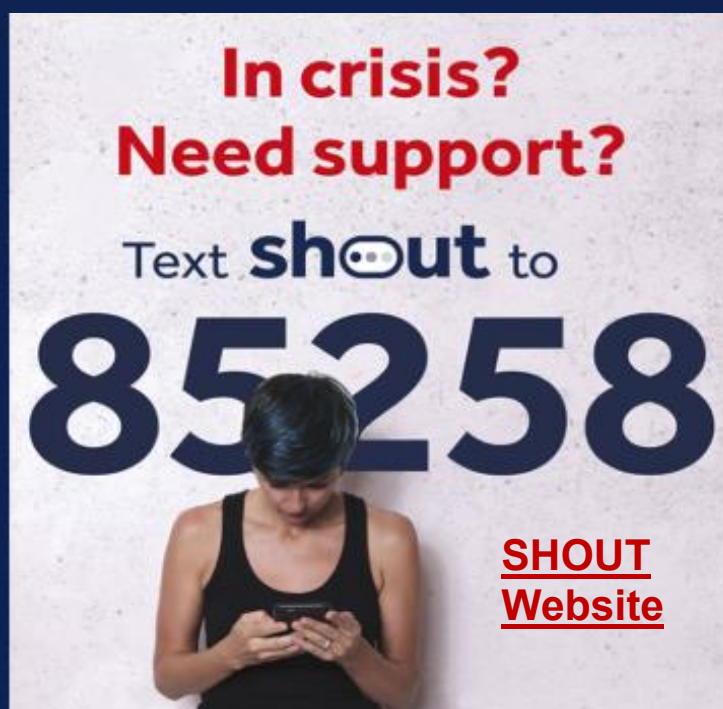
Are you taking on the Dry January challenge, decided on a healthy start to the New Year and need to get rid of all temptation that stands in your way?

Any Christmas gifts you received that are 'surplus' to your requirements? Too many socks, perfume that's not quite you or your bathroom cupboard is overflowing with bath bombs?



If you have unopened bottles of alcohol or unwanted gifts that you'd like to donate, we'll be happy to take them off you to be used as prizes for fund raising events and the Summer Fayre.

Please send any of your donations to BGS PA through the School Reception. If you prefer to hand them directly to the PA, please do come along to our next meeting in the Sixth Form Centre on Wednesday 22nd January, at 7.30pm or contact eventsbexleygs@gmail.com to arrange delivery or possible collection.



Forthcoming Events

January 2020

Wednesday 22nd

PA Meeting, 7.30pm Sixth Form Centre ~ see notice



Thursday 23rd

Power Day 3



Tuesday 28th

KS4 Showcase Concert, 6pm ~ see notice



Thursday 30th

Inset Day ~ School closed to students

February

Tuesday 11th February

Year 9 Parents' Evening, 4pm to 6.30pm

Friday 14th

Last full school day before half term

Monday 17th ~ Friday 21st

Half Term ~ School closed to students

Monday 24th

All students return to school following half term