

NEWS LETTER



23rd January 2020

www.bexleygs.co.uk

新年快乐
Happy Chinese New Year
2020



Year of the Rat - Chinese New Year 25th January 2020

Why should we learn about Chinese New Year celebrations? I believe that it is essential, that as young people we take the time to learn about Chinese New Year. By learning about Chinese New Year, we are learning about different cultures and widening our eyes to differences around the world. As children, if we embrace different cultures and gain tolerance towards differences it raises us to be tolerant and open minded adults. Finally, as well as it is great for tolerance, it's a great learning opportunity and will help us to further expand our Chinese knowledge and cultural understanding.

Michael Ato, Year 8





Chinese New Year is a day of mixed feelings for many people. It is a chance to celebrate the end of the old year and welcome the new one. People celebrate it to bring good luck, cherish important memories, enjoy time with family, eat food and make New Year's Resolutions. Chinese New Year unites the country and is a nice, new, fresh start for the next year. Lots of gifts, food, hugs, kisses and happiness is involved, which makes the whole country a better place.



Elizaveta Newton, Year 8

During Chinese New Year celebrations, people paint lanterns with birds, animals, flowers and zodiac signs. These are hung in temples and carried in evening parades under the light of the full moon. The highlight of the traditional lantern festival is a dragon which is typically made of silk, paper and bamboo. People may gift each other with red envelopes. These have money inside (roughly £1000!). Fireworks are set off during Chinese New Year as it is thought that noise and lights will scare away any evil spirits in the coming months. Chinese New Year is a very important and traditional festival in Chinese Culture and there are lots of ways that it is celebrated.



Rebecca Elkins, Year 8

Red envelopes are custom in Chinese New Year and they always contain money. These envelopes are then given to kids from their parents or grandparents. Did you know that the colour red is associated with energy, happiness and good luck?

In the lesson, my classmates and I cut out a net of a red envelope and then made the envelope. Our teacher then poured water onto a solid block of ink and then we used a small, rectangular block to mix the ink with the water until it was a sticky and watery texture so that we could dip our paintbrushes in and write a message on our red envelopes. I really enjoyed the lesson and thought that it was really fun!

Kirti Halkhoree, Year 8





TSBA reading group

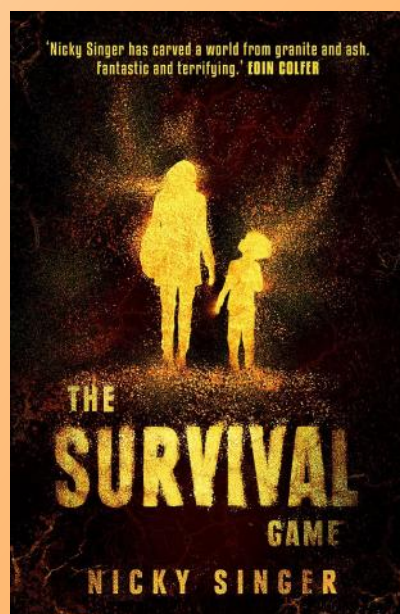
It was the final week of the Trinity Schools Book Award reading group, and some very talented Year 7 students baked us book related treats to celebrate. Zoe Allen made Harry Potter cupcakes, and Matilda Jackson and Deya Dimitrova baked chocolate chip cookies that spelled out 'Book Club'. They disappeared in seconds.



I tested their knowledge of the books with a Kahoot Quiz, which was won by our superstar reader, Amelie Leachman (Year 8). We all voted on our favourite book, which was *I Have No Secrets* by Penny Joelson, a murder mystery where the detective is a 14 year old girl with cerebral palsy, who is unable to communicate. My favourite was *The Survival Game* by Nicky Singer, a fantastic thriller about climate change and people trying to flee countries on the equator which are now inhabitable.

It was a pleasure meeting each week with the students in this reading group, and we are looking forward to seeing both Penny Joelson and Nicky Singer, as well as other authors, at the Awards Ceremony in March.

Mrs Carey, School Librarian





PE News

A successful afternoon of basketball on Thursday for the boys. The Year 9s managed to rack up an impressive 82 points in their Kent cup fixture, while the Year 7s squeaked to a narrow win over Hurstmere.



Well done to the Year 7 and 8 girls' Sports Hall athletics teams. Both finished as runners up in the Borough Championships held at Townley GS on Tuesday. There were some epic performances from the girls.



Well done to the Year 10 and 11 netball teams who both earned wins over HACA in very chilly conditions on Wednesday. The 10s won 15-3, while the 11s won 11-3. Great work girls!

Mr Lines, Head of PE





Safer Internet Day - Advice and Information for Parents

Tuesday 11th February is Safer Internet Day and with that in mind, I'm signposting parents towards some useful resources.

This is the official website for the day:

<https://www.saferinternetday.org/>

This is a useful newsletter that I subscribe to, with regular e-safety updates and advice for parents:

https://www.esafety-adviser.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/DITTO-Ed-22-January-2020_compressed.pdf

Mr H Gilmore

Deputy Head and Designated Safeguarding Lead

Lost Property New Reporting System

Lost property has become such a problem this year that Reception has decided to try something new. By following the link [here](#) you can report any lost items directly to us by completing a Google Form which will take no more than a couple of minutes. Students often come and ask about losing property but fail to try again, and on many occasions their item will have turned up within a few days.

By keeping a record of lost items we may be more successful in reuniting them with their owners. We still do recommend and ask that you put your child's name in all their belongings, which makes it easier for us. Currently, we have over 20 coats that have been handed in and only **2** had names in. **Please help us to help you.**

Thank you

Reception Team



Sankaku Shotokan KARATE



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**Now held at Bexley Grammar School
for BGS students and staff only**

Tuesdays 15:30 - 16:30

Instructors are DBS checked and insured

For further information regarding
classes please contact:

Andy Ebdon (Bexley Grammar parent) 07403 879456

www.sskkarate.co.uk

info@sskkarate.co.uk



News items you may have missed

**BEXLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL MUSIC
DEPARTMENT PRESENTS**

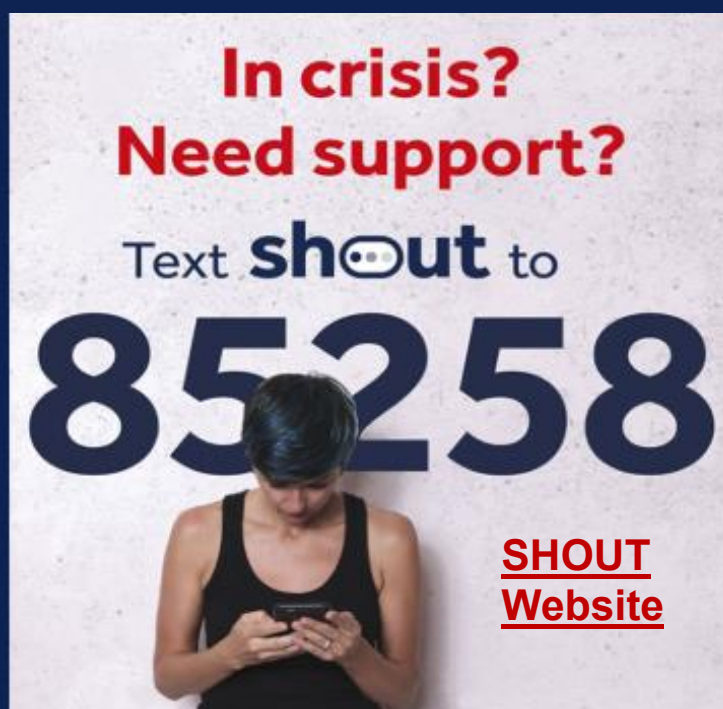
KS4 SHOWCASE CONCERT

28TH JANUARY 2020, 6PM

**TICKETS: £3/£2
CONCESSIONS**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE ON
THE DOOR.**





Forthcoming Events

January 2020

Monday 27th ~ Week A

Tuesday 28th

KS4 Showcase Concert, 6pm ~ see notice



Thursday 30th

Inset Day ~ School closed to students

Friday 31st

All students return to school following Inset Day

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