

# NEWS LETTER



6<sup>th</sup> February 2020

[www.bexleygs.co.uk](http://www.bexleygs.co.uk)

## 3 BGS students recognised at the annual Bexley 'Civic Celebration of Achievement'

The Annual London Borough of Bexley 'Civic Celebration of Achievement' took place on the evening of Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Mr Elphick had nominated 3 exceptional students from Bexley Grammar School for 'Outstanding Academic Achievement Awards'.

Katie Henderson went up to receive her award for exceptional achievement as one of only ten students in England to have gained perfect grades in all twelve or her GCSEs; there was an audible gasp as this award was read out.

Then Kylie Li went up to receive her award for the same exceptional achievement: One of only ten students in England to have gained perfect grades in all twelve or her GCSEs; there was a second audible gasp.

And then Corinna Dunzendorfer, who had travelled back from Cambridge University where she has started her medical degree, received her award to recognise her exceptional achievement of the highest possible score in the IB Diploma. Only 213 students out of well over 150,000 students from across the world attained the remarkable, perfect score of 45 points. More gasps.

Congratulations to all three students for this well-deserved public recognition of their outstanding examination performances.





## English Lecture Series: Climate Change on Page and Screen

On 3rd February, the English Department hosted a lecture by Harry Warwick, a former Bexley Grammar student. Harry, who recently graduated with a PhD in English Literature, came in to give a lecture about both some of the work he had done and some things he held interests in surrounding the topic. The main theme of his talk was eco-dystopias, as well as how they are displayed in modern media, with some of the philosophical and environmental views around the topic. Giving an insight into some of the aspects that formed key parts of his PhD, he talked broadly about the portrayal of climate catastrophes in modern pop culture, and more specifically about the influence the climate change has in the media, which he viewed to be apparent yet minimal. It was a thought-provoking and enjoyable lecture. I look forward to more in the series!



***Sam Leighton, Year 12***

## STEM News

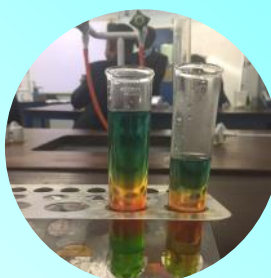
It has been a very busy term in Science Club with Year 7 and Year 8 students getting stuck in with a wide variety of activities. These included making rainbows with different densities of sugar solution (harder than it sounds). The steadiest hands were then chosen to try and create a giant density column at the end. I think everyone learnt that patience is a virtue and I enjoyed seeing their resilience in this tricky task.



Another memorable Science Club was with Year 8. We were planning to make scribble bots who can draw by themselves but in the end, we had a 'robot wars' style battle between them instead! It was great fun seeing them scoot around the floor and knock each other's propellers off!

There have been many other activities from dissecting a kidney to carrying out displacement reactions. We look forward to lots more fun activities as we go through the Spring Term.

***Ms Lusted, Stem Coordinator***





## Japanese Club

On Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February, we looked at tutorials online to make our own origami since some of the Year 12 students who usually came to help out weren't there. Most of us attempted to make something more challenging and unique. We also learnt that there was a 'Bean-Throwing Festival' on 3<sup>rd</sup> February in Japan to celebrate the division of the different seasons. During the festival, people throw beans at the devil (someone dressed up as him or a statue) and say: "Devil out! Good luck in!" Afterwards, you have to eat the same amount of beans as your age. This is like performing a ritual for good luck. Everyone had fun and we all found it very entertaining.



### *Kelly To, Year 7*





## PE News

### Year 8 Netball

One Tuesday afternoon the Year 8 Netball team went off by coach to a tournament at Harris Garrard. It was bitterly cold and we all were shivering but despite that we came back to school very successful by winning 2 and drawing 2. Our biggest victory was winning against Townley (our toughest opponents!). We showed crucial teamwork and played to our best abilities. Our final player of the match went Liza. We are all proud of our efforts and ourselves at the end of the day as we played excellently.



### *The Year 8 Netball Team*



Early morning netball training every week at 7.45am without fail. These lovely ladies are a real credit to their families and the school. Resilience and hard work does pay off, girls. You showed true strength of character at the tournament with a victorious win against Townley: 2 wins and 2 draws, our best result so far. Super proud of you all! A few more matches to go until the end of the season... Keep going girls! Congratulations!



*Mrs Kemp, PE Department*

A really enjoyable game of football for the Year 8 squad. The score (a 4-1 loss) was a harsh reflection of the game. St Columba's had the better of the first half with BGS on top in the second. Some ruthless finishing by the home team ensured they came out on top. The effort from the entire 15 pupils involved from BGS was brilliant. Despite the loss it was a really positive atmosphere within the team. Congratulations on being a fantastic bunch and having an amazing team spirit.



*Mr Mackle, PE Department*



SAVE THE DATE!

# Wine Tasting EVENING!

FRIDAY 15 MAY | 7.30PM



A FUNDRAISING SOCIAL FOR PARENTS AND CARERS  
BGS PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

**£20**  
Per ticket



## Year 8 visit to Europa Town in January

Europa Town was an amazing thing to experience from the different range of shops such as un café, un supermarché et more. We first started off with a few lessons on how to say certain things such as what type of medicine you would need or how to pay for certain things and also how to say I would like. This was a very helpful session since it was a recap of what we had done, but also helped us a lot when it came to experience it. We also had to make our own passports for Border Control!



Before we could enter Europa Town we had to go through Border Control where we used the passports that we had made to use and answer questions to get through. It was a very fun way on how to revise basic vocabulary. When we entered there was a range of shops such as a bakers, a pharmacy, a clothes shop, a cafe, a cinema and more... We had to speak in our core language and had to purchase items and just live the normal life of a French or German person going to a shop. This was a way to experience a new culture and to have a fun time in a whole new world! Europa Town was amazing and was a lot of fun!



**Gunit Kaur, Year 8**

## News items you may have missed

### Unnecessary high value items

Could we please remind parents and guardians that students should not be bringing high value items into school unnecessarily. In particular, we would discourage students from bringing Apple Air Pods (or similar) into school.

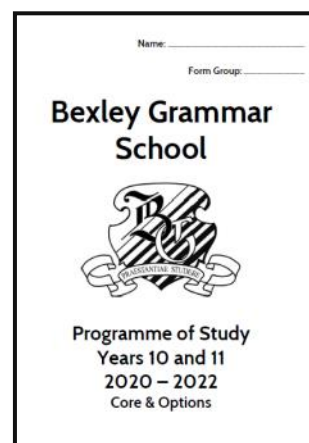
**The Pastoral Team**



### Year 9 Options Booklet

The Year 9 Options Booklet has now been distributed to all students and an electronic version is also available on the school website.

Please click on the link [here](#) to view.





## Classics trip to Sicily 2021

The Classics Department is delighted to offer this trip to Sicily in the February half-term 2021. This trip is open to current Year 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 students and has 25 places available. Please check the letter on ParentPay for all the relevant details including cost and the deadline for the deposit. If you have any questions, please email [bqstrips@bexleygs.co.uk](mailto:bqstrips@bexleygs.co.uk) or [pearson\\_r@bexleygs.co.uk](mailto:pearson_r@bexleygs.co.uk).

When we are in Sicily we will be seeing some fantastic places that have a mixed history of Greek, Carthaginian and Roman. We will tour the city of Catania; Piazza Armerina with its famous mosaics; the Greek temples along the ridge at Agrigento; Syracuse and Ortygia; Giardini Naxos and finally the famous hill town of Taormina and the Roman theatre (see below).



*Miss Pearson, Head of Classics*

## Exams News

### Important message for all Year 11 students

The awarding bodies have designated **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020** as "contingency day" for examinations. This is in the event of national or local disruption to examinations. It means that students need to be available up to and including the contingency day.

*Mrs Bono, Examinations Officer*



## 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 School parent)**

**07403 879456**

[www.sskkarate.co.uk](http://www.sskkarate.co.uk)

[info@sskkarate.co.uk](mailto:info@sskkarate.co.uk)



## Lost Property

The photo is of unnamed PE kit left in the boys' changing rooms over the past 10 days. Please help us to help you by putting your child's name in all their belongings so that we can return them to their owners.

To report a lost item please click on the link [here](#).

Thank you for your cooperation.

**Reception Team**

## Forthcoming Events

### February

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> ~ Week A**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>**

Year 9 Parents' Evening, 4pm to 6.30pm

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup>**

Last full school day before half term

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> ~ Friday 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Half Term ~ School closed to students**

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup>**

All students return to school following half term

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>**

Deadline to submit Year 9 Options

### March

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup>**

IB Music Recitals ~ information to follow

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>**

Year 8 Parents' Evening, 4pm to 6.30pm

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>**

Year 10 Parents' Evening, 4pm to 6.30pm

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Spring Concert ~ information to follow