

# Together We've Got This

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> & Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October

We are coming together to support each other's mental health on **World Mental Health Day**. At BGS we are saying **#Hello Yellow** by wearing a yellow accessory in addition to your school uniform on **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October**. So get searching for some yellow socks, hair bands, badges, scarves, face masks etc. to wear to show that wellbeing is important to us.

In addition, on **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October** (World Mental Health Day) we are encouraging every student to **Do One Thing** to support their own health and wellbeing. Form tutors will be going through some ideas for self-care during your PSHCE lessons so hopefully you will have a good idea of what might work for you.

Feel free to upload a photo or talk about what you did [here](#) on the day so we can celebrate your own ideas for supporting positive wellbeing.



## NEWS LETTER



1<sup>st</sup> October 2020

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



## International day - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September

Last Friday (25<sup>th</sup> September) was International Day at BGS to celebrate European Day of Languages. We took our register in different languages, each day that week and on Friday we dressed up in outfits from different cultures. The canteen was selling international food, all week, including: jerk chicken, sushi and many others. Mrs Rubbera hosted a great international bake off, which was really fun to participate in. Overall, it was a really great week and I'm really excited for next year!

**Ellie Cox**  
**Year 7**



Bonjour,  
Hola, Hallo, Ciao  
Cześć, Ahoj, Hej  
Здравствуйте,  
Hello!

Which language are your teachers speaking?



10THW correctly guessed the nine foreign languages spoken in videos by our members of staff. This was extremely impressive on their part - bravo! So many of our teachers speak languages other than English; some speak four or five languages fluently! Why not ask your form tutor if they speak any other languages?





## International Bake-Off

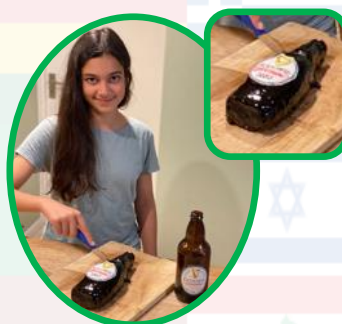
This year we carried out our international bake-off competition virtually with no tasting by the judges (sob, sob!). Students followed recipes from all over the world and sent in pictures and descriptions of their cooking. Presentation was the most important aspect this year! We received so many wonderful photos and were sad not to be able to taste them all. We hope you enjoyed making and eating all the delicious international food.

***Mrs Rubbera, MFL KS3 Lead Teacher***



**Best Overall Bake - Sienna Alwan, Year 7**

Sienna baked a beautiful and very realistic looking Guinness cake to celebrate receiving Irish citizenship. Congratulations Sienna!



## Excellent Entries



Gulab Jamun  
by Ashna Adhikari, Year 7



Sachertorte  
by Zoe Handscombe, Year 9



French Meringue  
by Samuel Pooley, Year 7



Japanese Gyoza  
by Oscar Evans, Year 7

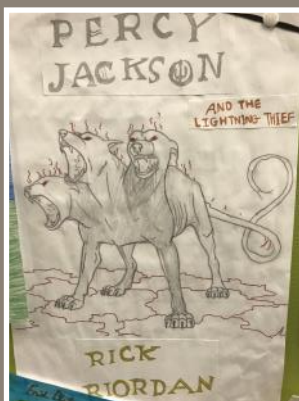


## Year 7 Book Cover Project

It has been wonderful to welcome the new Year 7 students and get to know which books they enjoy reading, and to gather their book recommendations for our library. I have also loved looking at their book cover designs, which they worked on over the summer.

Through some feat of engineering involving hundreds of drawing pins, I have managed to fit all of the covers onto my display board. I hope they enjoy seeing their beautiful designs on display. I will also choose a few to frame for our library walls, and I have a noticeboard that needs brightening up, so I will try to keep as many up as possible. Well done Year 7!

***Mrs Carey, School Librarian***







## PE News

Details of some more sports clubs starting next week. Note that girls are welcome to come along to Year 8 rugby (working separately from the boys) and Year 7 football next week. Girls' activities in these sports usually work alongside other year groups to provide adequate numbers, but that is not possible at the moment. Please see your PE teacher if you have any questions.

**Mr Lines, Head of PE**



**Year 8/9 Rugby**  
**Wednesday PM 3:20-4:20**  
**Week A - Yr 9**  
**Week B - Yr 8**



MORE  
SPORTS



**Year 9 Netball**  
**Tuesday AM 8:00-8:30**  
**Year 8 Netball**  
**Thursday AM 8:00-8:30**

**Year 10 Basketball**  
**Wednesday AM 8:00-8:30**  
**Week A&B**





### Bexley Grammar School Extra-Curricular Sports Timetable - Autumn

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School: 08:00-08:30		Year 9 Netball	Year 10 Basketball	Year 8 Netball	
After School: 16:30 finish		Year 7 Rugby	Week A: Year 9 Rugby Week B: Year 8 Rugby*	Year 7 Football*	



Field



Netball Courts



Sports Hall

\* Club for girls and boys



## Sixth Form

Year 12 have the opportunity to hit the ground running in Maths and Science with Imperial's [Accelerate into Maths and Science](#) Programme. This is an after school programme that runs throughout the Sixth Form. It provides excellent support and inspiration for students looking to continue STEM subjects at university. Applications are now open! Good luck Year 12!

Another similar support project that BGS students have been involved in before is the Generating Genius Programme. This aims to promote students from African and Caribbean ethnic groups to follow STEM subjects into university. There is a strong emphasis on experiential learning with hands-on workshops, meet and greets with industry professionals and a log list of activities throughout Sixth Form. Find out more about the Uni Genius Programme for Sixth Formers [here](#).



And for more general inspiration UCAS have listed all the virtual open days that universities are offering [here](#). Although Covid-19 is preventing us from doing so many things, these virtual open days mean unis are potentially more accessible than ever! So whether you are starting Year 12 and need some inspiration and something to aim for, or you are just finalising your application in Year 13, this should help.

## Key Stage 4

Year 11 has come back to school and hit the ground running. The Arkwright Engineering Scholarships are open again and we are looking forward to recommending students for this prestigious scholarship programme. It would be fantastic to continue the good record, we have developed here at BGS with two Year 12 students currently awaiting mentors to be allocated. Unfortunately, this has been affected by the pandemic. So far, the Year 11 level of interest far outstrips previous years and I am confident that we will be successful for a record number of consecutive years!



If you would like to know more about the programme, please click this [link](#) and contact me at [lusted\\_r@bexleygs.co.uk](mailto:lusted_r@bexleygs.co.uk) to be included in the application process.

## Key Stage 3

With the current restrictions about students from different bubbles not mixing and teachers unable to safely monitor the use of practical equipment from within the 'teaching boxes' we have been unable to start the usual programme of science clubs. As an alternative I will be launching a virtual STEM club for Years 7-9. Keep an eye out for emails and items in the tutor notices.

The House STEM competition will be starting after the October half term. Year 9 students only will take part. I look forward to releasing more details closer to the time and seeing the fantastic creativity of our students in action!

We are still making strides in the efforts to link our school to the Twiga STEM club in Tanzania. As soon as we are able to run clubs involving students from different year groups we will be looking for keen thinkers, problem solvers and team workers from across the different year groups.

***Ms Lusted, STEM Coordinator***





## Finally...

I know it has been mentioned many times before... BUT our certificate finally arrived from the Royal Society of Chemistry recognising the amazing efforts of our current Year 11 and 12s periodic table mural! Check out the framed certificate in the stairwell at the end of the M corridor!



## MidYIS test for Year 7s

On October 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> (form group dependent), all Year 7 pupils will sit a computer based assessment. No revision/ preparation is required from the pupils in any way. Many secondary schools countrywide gives students some sort of a baseline assessment to their Year 7s on entry.

The MidYIS test is what we call a "baseline assessment", designed to measure pupils' developed ability rather than what has been taught previously in school.

MidYIS assesses four key areas which research shows are linked to later academic outcomes:

- Vocabulary – word fluency and understanding
- Mathematics – logical thinking, manipulating numbers and numerical concepts
- Non-verbal ability – recognising shapes, matching patterns, applying spatial awareness and visual intuition
- Skills - such as proofreading, perceptual speed and accuracy
- As the assessment is adaptive, each student sees a unique assessment and is challenged at a level that is suitable for them, making it enjoyable, engaging, and efficient.

It gives measures of pupils' underlying potential to do well, and tests their strengths and weaknesses. The focus of the MidYIS test is to derive a sound indication of likely later academic achievement if steady progress is made, and to provide us with a baseline starting point for each student. Please click [here](#) to view the timetable.

If you have any queries, please contact me.

**Mrs Mallin, Assistant Head**



News items you may have missed

## Announcing our music extra-curricular programme!

### MUSIC EXTRA-CURRICULAR GROUPS AUTUMN 2020

ALL GROUPS TAKE PLACE AT 3.30PM  
AND FINISH AT 4:30PM.

MONDAY	<b><u>SENIOR CHOIR</u></b> with Mrs Goddard Y9-13 School Hall + Virtual	
TUESDAY	<b><u>CHAMBER CHOIR</u></b> with Mrs Eacott School Hall  <b><i>Must be a confident singer.</i></b>	<b><u>FLUTE GROUP</u></b> with Mrs Casling  Virtual By invitation
WEDNESDAY	<b><u>JUNIOR CHOIR</u></b> Y7 - Mrs Eacott, School Hall Y8 - Mrs Casling, Gym	
THURSDAY	<b><u>STRING ENSEMBLE</u></b> with Mrs Eacott Gym	
FRIDAY	<b><u>ORCHESTRA</u></b> with Mrs Goddard and Ms Casling Grade 2+.  School Hall, Gym + Virtual.	

**JUNIOR JAZZ AND BIG BAND WILL BE  
TAKING PLACE VIRTUALLY**

Students must apply for these groups using the Google form [HERE](#). Please ask them to sign in to their BGS account to complete this. If you have any issues in signing up, or wish to ask further questions about our enrichment programme, please do not hesitate to get in touch with a member of the Music Department.





## A message from Miss Scott for Year 11

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the acting Director of Studies for Year 11 whilst Mrs Harris is on maternity leave. I look forward to working with the year group in the lead up to their GCSEs and beyond.

# Easyfundraising

Free money for the school when you shop online at absolutely no cost to you.

Thank you to all those who have signed up for the BGS EasyFundraising (327 supporters now). This scheme, at absolutely no cost to you, has now raised £5,507.22 for the school through the Parents' Association. (Mr Elphick has recently been knocked back into 7<sup>th</sup> position by Miss Brand who is now chasing Mrs Haslam who is second on the leaderboard.)

With more online shopping than ever before, you can be raising money with absolutely no cost to you just by signing up and putting an icon in your browser. Please take 3 minutes to sign up to support BGS whenever you make a purchase online.

## ***BGS Parents' Association***

Sign up at:

**<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bexleygrammar>**  
click on the pink "Support this Cause" box.

Don't forget to set up  
**"Donation Reminder"**!

easyfundraising  
feel good shopping

Collect  
**FREE**  
funds  
for

 Bexley  
Grammar  
School  
Parents'  
Association

when you shop online  
the  
**easyfundraising**  
way

amazon.co.uk John Lewis

Thomson ebay

Viking Argos

Sainsbury's

 1. Join  
 2. Shop  
 3. Collect



## Report Lost Property

The lost property reporting system is up and running for items which have been mislaid in school since the beginning of this term. If your child has lost an item since the beginning of September please click on the link [here](#) to report it.

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.

Thank you for your cooperation.

**Reception Team**

## Forthcoming events/ Important dates for your diary

### October

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> ~ Week A

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> ~ Year 7 MidYIS test (see notice or click [here](#) for the timetable)

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> ~ Year 7 MidYIS test (see notice or click [here](#) for the timetable)

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> ~ Hello Yellow Day (see notice)

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> ~ Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Year 13, IB Mock Examinations**

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> ~ Virtual Open Event for Year 7 entry in September 2021- opens for several weeks on [www.bexleygs.co.uk](http://www.bexleygs.co.uk)**

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ last full school day before Half Term

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October to Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November HALF TERM  
(school closed to students ~ please note that the Friday before & the Monday after the usual half term week are also part of the holiday)

### November

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> ~ First school day following Half Term (all students return to school)

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> ~ Friday 13<sup>th</sup> - GCSE Mock Examinations**