

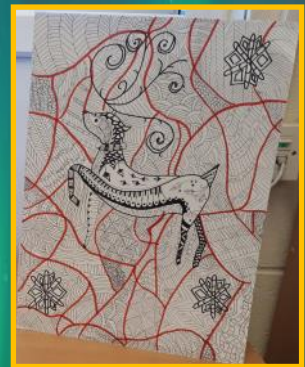
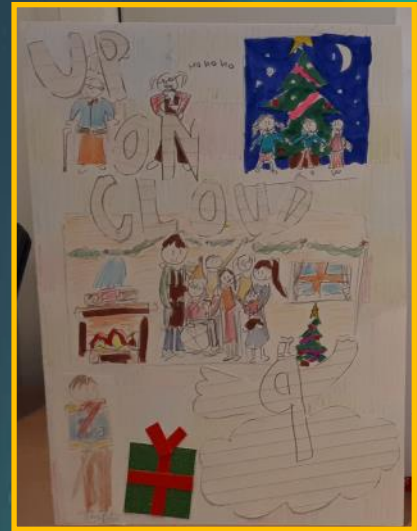
# NEWSLETTER

## Well Done Year 8

Year 8 forms have risen to the challenge to create a Christmas card in just one week. This was set up as an outreach activity for the festive season - we hope to be able to share these within the local community to bring some Christmas cheer.

Well done and thank you to all who have been involved!

***Mrs Spencer, Senior Academic Mentor, Year 8***



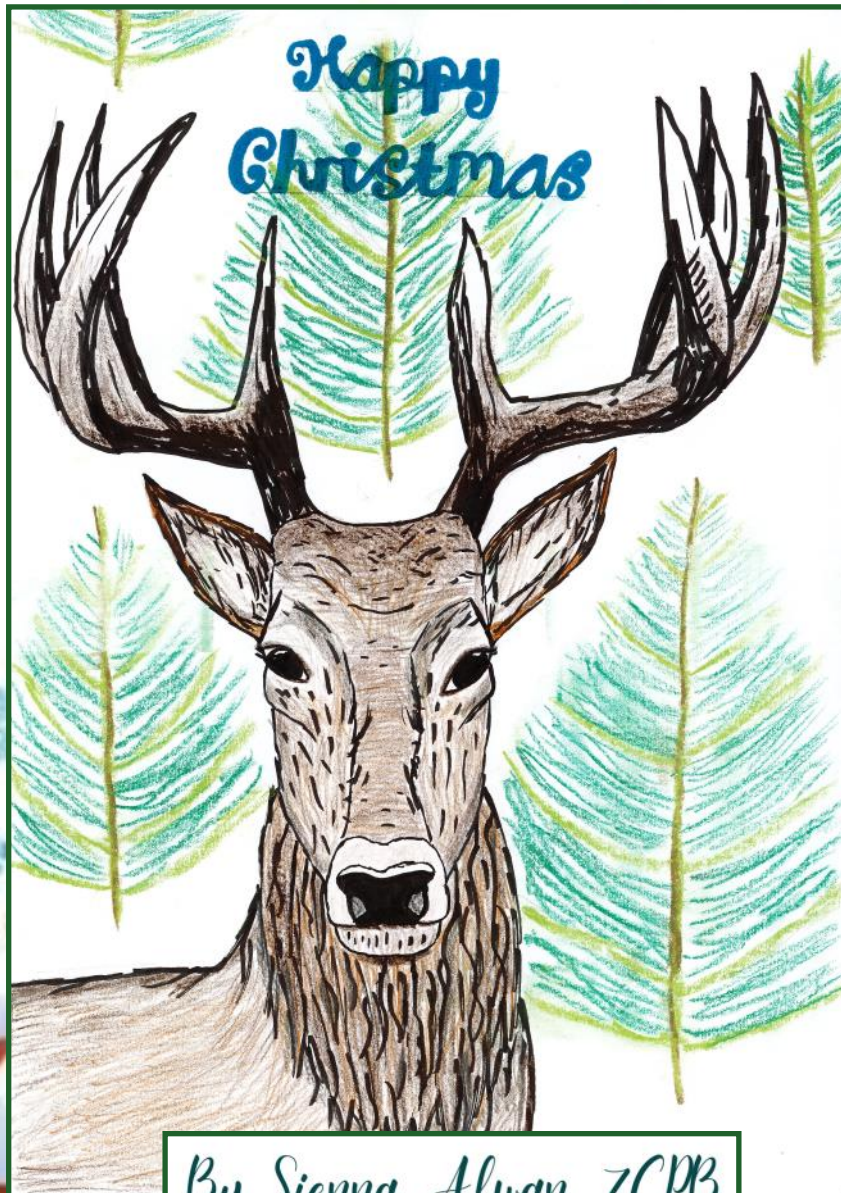
16<sup>th</sup> December  
2020  
[www.bexleygs.co.uk](http://www.bexleygs.co.uk)

**Bumper  
Christmas Edition**



THE HEADMASTERS  
Christmas Card  
Competition

Winner



By Sienna Alwan, 7CPB

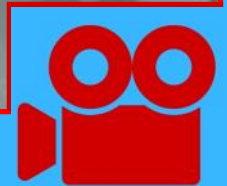




## 7REL have been learning Sign Language

7REL made a short video to show the other Year 7 forms. Mr Martin was so impressed that he wanted it to be shared with everyone. Please click [here](#) to view their Christmas message.

***Ms Lusted, Form Tutor***



Please click on the link [here](#) to view the Christmas Edition of the School Magazine





## The Future Design of Cars

Currently we are in the middle of a revolutionary change in the automobile industry. 'There's a century of diesel-burning, hand-on-the-wheel vehicles in our rear-view mirrors, while the road ahead is driven forward by electric, driverless technologies. Somewhere between yesterday and tomorrow, however, is the vehicle that bridges this gap, and its spirit can be seen in the concept cars, TED Talks and patent filings of today'. If you manage to catch a glimpse of the 'future' you might see some trends that are poking their way through each design.



However, concept cars aren't a new idea they have been brewing in designers' minds since the early 1900's, the first being the Buick Osceola in 1938. Its design in this modern age may seem basic but it was ground-breaking at the time. Housing hidden headlamps, integrated fenders, and powered windows all a first of its kind. It had such a positive impact on the industry that it influenced the designs of future Buicks to this date and Cadillac's at the time.



The visual real estate on the interior of the windshield is a prime location to display crucial information for the driver. With HUD (Heads Up Display) Technology a driver can see information about the car and the environment without having to take their eyes off the road as the instruments are all built into the windshield. This would not only increase safety when driving but it would also reduce eyes and neck strain allowing drivers to be even more comfortable in their cars. Alongside with driverless technology and voice-activated car operating system drivers could control their cars with simple voice commands like 'hold speed at 55' and 'lights please' and these could be readily available by next year!

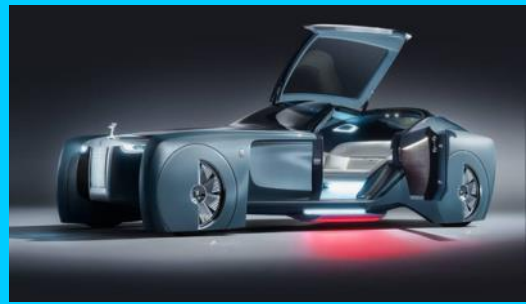


Another common trend that has been seen scattered throughout is the use of panoramic sunroofs which are a feat of engineering. Some may see this roof design as impossible and dangerous, however glass technology has evolved rapidly over the last few years. Due to the ever-growing demand for higher durability smartphone displays, glass and high impact plastics have been altered to have better shock and impact absorption. These panoramic roofs wouldn't only allow for stargazing, but make sightseeing a breeze. Future technology could drive this further through the implementation of solar panels into the glass to allow the car to harness power consistently to reduce its energy consumption and allow us to have endless road trips.





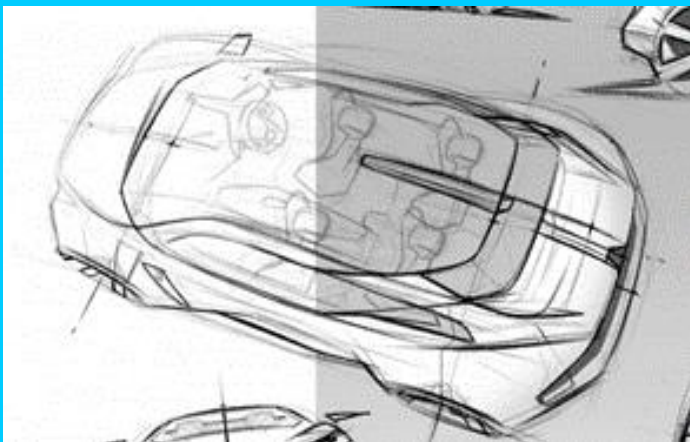
These cars are trying to address environmental issues that cars are known perpetrators for. That's why the future looks to be entirely electric and everything seems to have been planned for. Peugeot and Tesla are integrating negative-ion generators that have the ability to filter out bacteria and stop 90% of pollutants entering the car. Inevitably, these additions would lead to cars eventually becoming self-sustainable and non-damaging to the environment which is the fulfilment of a lifelong dream for any car designer.



Visualisation and drawing skills portrayed in the pictures here are heavily sought after by major car companies including; Mercedes-Benz, Audi, Hyundai and BMW to name a few. They seek people who can provide a unique edge to their designs that break boundaries between reality and the unimaginable. These concepts for a car called 'Link' were designed by a car design student with an eye for futurism and minimalism. If this is the way our cars are heading, I'm all for it.



***Ethan Pereira, Year 12***





# PE News

Champions! Congratulations to the Bexley Beavers, who sealed their 11x PE title with a nerve-wracking 3-2 win over the Bears. Well done to all the Year 11 boys for a fantastic tournament. It hasn't quite made up for the fixtures against other schools we've missed out on this term, but we're sure the boys have had fun.

**Mr Lines, Head of PE**



Team Name	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Bexley Beavers	10	7	0	3	38	27	11	21
Bexley Bobcats	10	6	1	3	35	20	15	19
Bexley Bulls	10	6	1	3	30	18	12	19
Bexley Broncos	10	5	1	4	36	28	8	16
Bexley Buffaloes	10	2	1	7	21	51	-30	7
Bexley Bears	10	1	2	7	16	30	-14	5

Another huge well done to Freya Bucksey in Year 10, who has been selected to play cricket for Kent. Along with her Kent football achievements, Freya's got summer and winter weekends sorted for the foreseeable future.

**Mr Lines**





## Home Workouts

Our brilliant year 12 PE prefects have produced some easy workouts you can do at home if you are having to isolate and are missing your PE lessons. You don't need any equipment, or even much space, and you can work for as long as you would like. The prefects would recommend 60 seconds per activity, and repeat the workout 3 times, but you may want to start at 30 seconds and work up. Enjoy.

You can access it via the QR code or here:

<https://bit.ly/2K7jLGO>

*Mr Lines, Head of PE*





# Welcome to the



**Sophie Tea** - glitter, 'body positivity' and making art accessible to all: How a young art entrepreneur blows the art world away...

Sophie Tea is an artist who prides herself on making the art world more accessible to the younger generation, having broken free from the traditional gallery route and made her own name independently through her social media platform. As an artist, she focuses on celebrating the beauty of bodies of all shapes and sizes and promotes love and positivity through her online brand, bringing fans from all over the world and contributing to a new era of accessible art.

Sophie was one of the pioneers of the 'glitter body' craze, leading to thousands of people attending festivals decorating their bodies with gems and sequins after a picture of her doing so at Coachella 2017 went viral. This outfit was a very powerful statement as, although some found it untasteful, others found it extremely empowering and a perfect way for women to own their bodies.



This sudden fame gave her a lot of recognition and gave her work a lot of traction, allowing her to reach thousands of people with her art. After graduating with a first-class degree in Business, she then decided to pursue a career in art, although she didn't sell much at first. However, after her increase in attention as her social media platform grew, Sophie stated in an interview that: 'Four years on, I don't feel the need to work with a gallery as demand is already high... There are some progressive galleries - and I have worked with some - but on the whole, they can be quite an elitist world.' This has motivated her further to make her art even more accessible to those not usually interested in traditional art and break out from the restraints of the traditional route of art: 'My work is easily accessible and encourages people who may not have bought original art in the past to consider it. I pride myself on taking people's art virginities.' Now, she has more instagram followers than most galleries have visitors, and can reach so many people with her art.



Another interesting thing about her work is her business model, allowing customers to pay a deposit, then pay the remainder over 12 months, with no interest. This means her work is so much more accessible for her customers, giving them a chance to enjoy her art immediately and pay in shorter amounts over a period of time. This new approach to the art world encourages more young people to be interested in her work and is incredible for bringing in the art scene people who wouldn't usually spend time or money on it. Is this the start of a new era where high art is accessible to all?





One of her most recent collections, 'Send Nudes,' has been incredibly inspirational, discussing body positivity, empowerment and diversity, uplifting many women from across the world. She says, 'I never had the best relationship with my body growing up, so I always wanted to do a project on the female form.' She asked her followers if they wanted to be her inspiration and a part of her campaign, and if so, to send nudes. Overnight, she and her team received over 1,000 images of women, including those 'all shapes and sizes and different races. People with scars, mastectomies, anything and everything. Every picture came with its own unique story.' This project was a huge success, giving her a unique 'Send Nudes' show at the Carnaby Street gallery, where many women had a chance to partake in her nude catwalk celebrating the beauty of the female body.



Her work is incredibly significant in a society like ours, which is riddled with insecurity and impossible beauty standards, as well as contribute to a world where art is freely available to all.

***Heather Shaw, Year 12 Art Prefect***



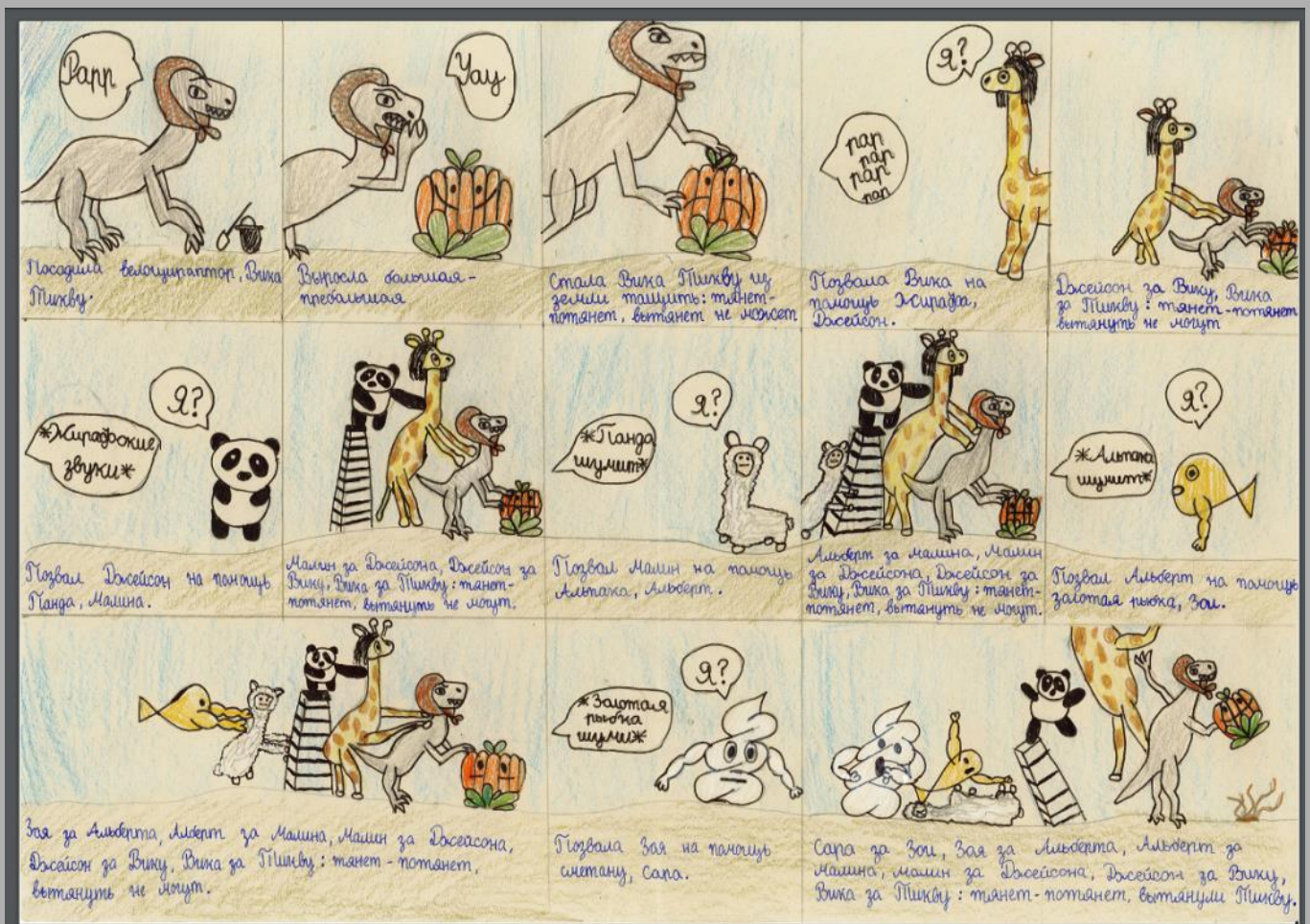


# MFL News



It's been a productive and exciting term for Year 8 Russian students. Having learnt to read and write in Cyrillic (which is no mean feat), they tapped into the diverse world of Russian fairy tales and even came up with their own version of "The Enormous Turnip", featuring pandas, aubergines, penguins and some BGS students. These works showcase the Year 8 Russian group's art and design skills, their growing mastery of the language and excellent storytelling.

**Ms Zotova, Teacher of MFL**





Позбала кошка мышку.

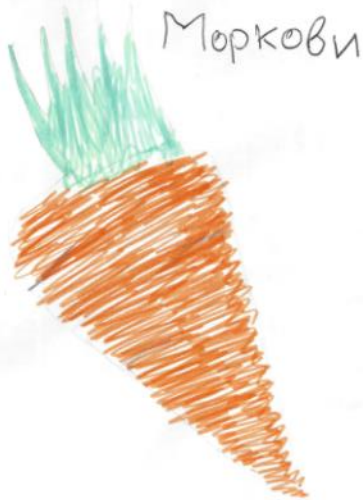
Мышка за кошку, кошка за собаку, собака за девушку, девушка за мальчику, мальчик за баклажан : тянут - Потянут, вытянутъ не может.

Позбала мышка сыр.

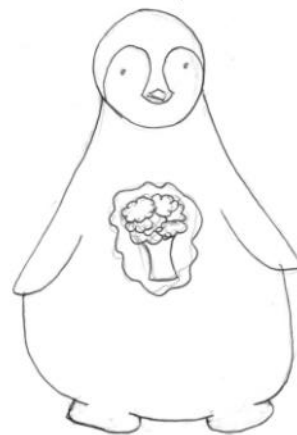
Сыра за мышку, мышка за кошку, кошка за собаку, собака за девушку, девушка за мальчик мальчик за баклажан : тянут - Потянут, вытянули баклажан!



История огромной Моркови



Посадили пингвина брокколи.





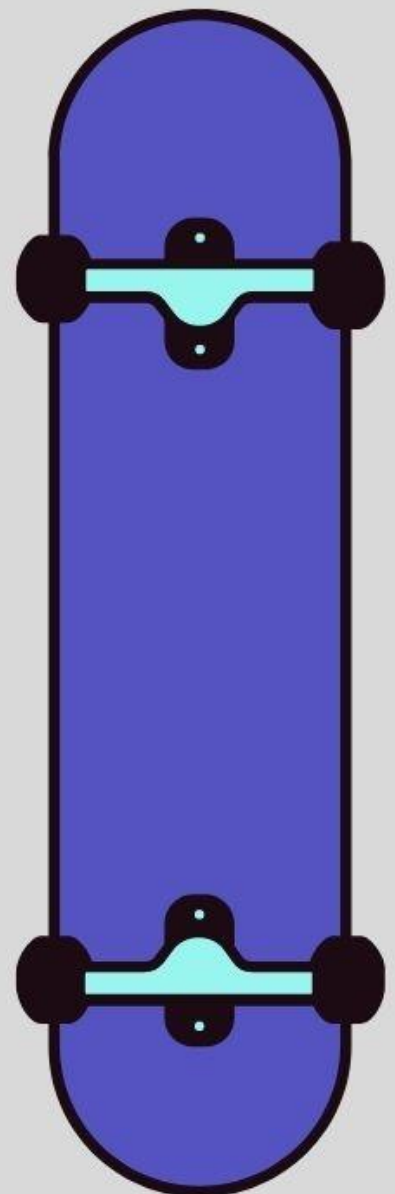
# HAPPY OLLIE DAYS!

# Coming soon

*make. create. paint. skate*

In 2021 DT are launching The BGS Skateboard Club. Making the decks from scratch, steam bending to shape and then painting...

Open to Year 8 and 9 initially.  
Register your interest with Mia Millen and Lucy Avis-Clarke in Year 8





## Year 9 Independent Learning Project

The Independent Learning Project Booklet was distributed electronically last week to parents/ carers and students in Year 9. The booklet is also on the school website and can be viewed by clicking on the link [here](#).

Year 9

# Independent Learning Project

2020-2021

*You have brains in your head.  
You have feet in your shoes.  
You can steer yourself any  
direction you choose.  
- Dr Seuss*





AN INVITATION FROM  
BCS PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

**Christmas  
Raffle Draw  
Live on Zoom!**

**THURS 17 DEC**

**7.30 PM**

**TO JOIN ON ZOOM:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88090858369?pwd=dkM0U3F3UTZxNm9ZVDY3Qk1ZR9aUT09>

**Meeting ID: 880 9085 8369**

**Passcode: 791876**

**• Feel free to dress festive!**



BGS PA

# *Christmas Tree Decorating Contest Winners!*



*First Place*

Moore McCarthy Family





*Second Place*  
Banks Family



*Third Place*

BGS DT Teachers



Thank you to all staff & families who entered!  
It was a close contest with so many beautiful trees submitted.

The Christmas trees were judged on:

- 1) creativity
- 2) theme
- 3) overall visual impact



*Take a look at all the lovely entries!*

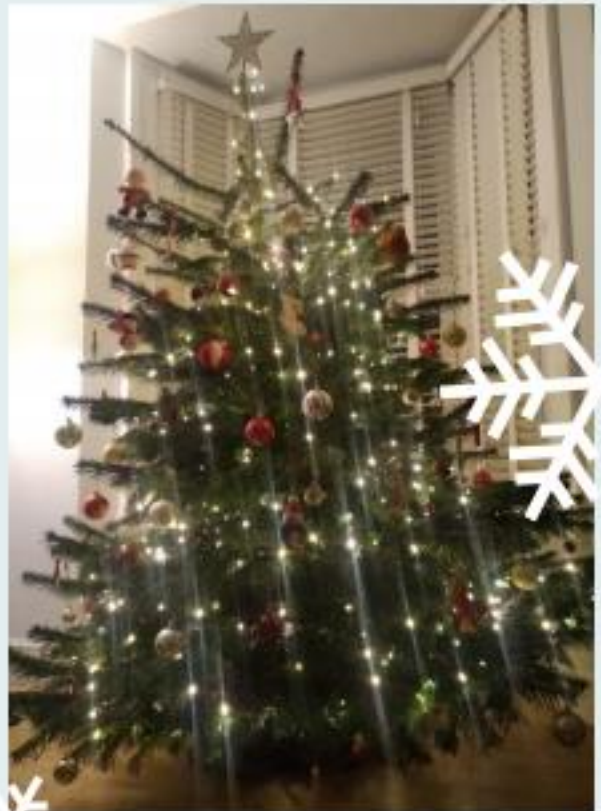














*Finally, a special mention to 3 year old Lottie for her hand crafted tree entry!*



*Wishing you a Merry Christmas!*



# 2020

## A year we will never forget!



### January

We celebrated success in the regionals of the Jack Petchey Pitch Perfect Grand Final



Three of our students were recognised at the annual Bexley 'Civic Celebration of Achievement'



Jack Petchey Foundation  
Inspire • Motivate • Achieve



Year 12 visited the Chemistry Higher Education Conference at Queen Mary University London

We celebrated sporting achievements with students from all year groups



### February

Harry Warwick, a former BGS student gave a lecture on 'Climate Change on Page and Screen'



toilet twinning



Year 8s visited Europa Town



Year 8 Geography students participated in a sponsored silence in aid of 'Toilet Twinning' in Africa





# March

Charlie was crowned 'Bexley Young Musician of the Year 2020' after wowing the judges!



The Year 12 Young Enterprise Team was the 'Best in Bexley' and the Year 10s excelled in the Tenner Challenge!

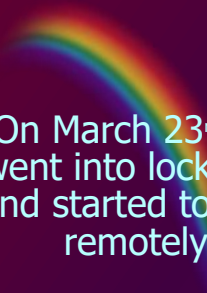


Congratulations went to **Wellman** for their first ever victory since the House was inaugurated



We celebrated 'World Book Day' by dressing up as our favourite characters and Year 8s were visited by Sufiya Ahmed, the author of *'Secrets of the Henna Girl'*.

On March 23<sup>rd</sup>, we went into lockdown and started to work remotely.



# April

We announced the winners of the House Photography Competition

KS3 enjoyed a 'Twelfth Night' watch party when their own interpretation of the production was cancelled



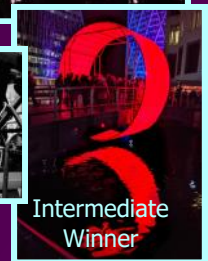
Kiera and her family supported our wonderful NHS



Senior Winner



Junior Winner



Intermediate Winner



STEM encouraged us to get involved with the 'Return to Offender' Campaign

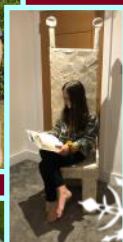


# May

There was a special edition of the Newsletter to mark VE Day



Year 7s rose to the challenge and produced some amazing MFL Diploma work



We began to showcase our Year 7 Art Diploma work



Our budding doctors were invited to watch Post-Mortem Live

# June

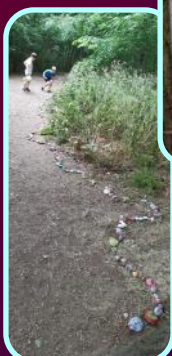
Sixth Form students discussed medicine in a pandemic



We produced a special edition Black Lives Matter Newsletter



Luke told us about the Covid Snake of Hope in Danson Park



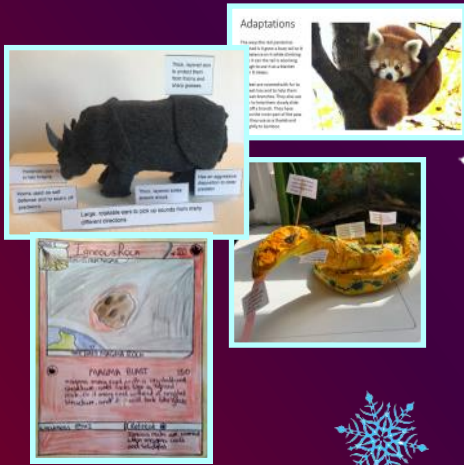
Year 9 students showed off their culinary skills by preparing international dishes





# July

Year 7s and 8s showed us their summer Science learning projects



Our IB results were excellent from our second fully IB cohort!

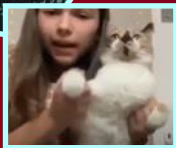
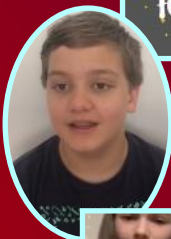


Year 9s investigated 'Cashless Britain'



'Toilet Twinning' The toilets arrived!

The Music department and students treated us to a series of streamed concerts



Year 7s took part in the MFL Song Competition



Year 7s and 8s participated in the STEM engineering challenge



In DT Year 7s produced some fantastic Isometric Lettering

# August

Our Year 11s achieved record-breaking GCSE results





# September

We celebrated International Week by dressing up in outfits from different cultures and baked international dishes



Year 7s took part in the 'Book Cover Project'



We received our certificate from the Royal Society of Chemistry recognising our Periodic Table Mural

# October

The Library marked Black History Month



Together we supported each others mental health on World Mental Health Day



The Year 8 'Student Voice' group met



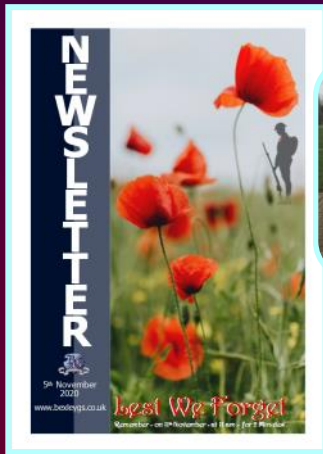
Year 9s showed us their Geography work in the 'Make, Bake & Create' exercise





# November

We remembered



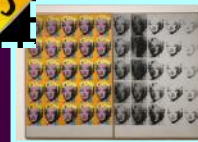
DT told us about Bio-Architecture & 3D Bio-Printing



Luke's and Vaibhav's names were added to our PE honours board



MFL showed us the KS3 Creative Writing Competition winners



The Art department shared famous artworks with us



# December

We participated in the 2020 Bebras Challenge



After school sporting activities



We received a thank you from the Royal British Legion



News items you may have missed



# Winter Festival of Music

14 - 17 December, 6pm on YouTube

A series of short concerts for your  
Christmas entertainment by students of  
the music department.

Please donate via ParentPay.



Click [HERE](#) to go to  
our YouTube channel!



# Winter Festival of Music

From Monday 14th December, every night at 6pm, music students from the Music Department will be performing a series of virtual concerts for you. Each concert is around 25 minutes long, and we have a variety of ensembles from choirs, orchestras as well as some soloists from the lower school. If you'd like to make a donation, please log on to ParentPay where you will be directed accordingly.

We are looking forward to sharing the concerts with you - tune in on YouTube and search for Music at Bexley Grammar School. Subscribe to keep up to date! We will release the specific links on our Twitter and Instagram pages each day - follow us @bexleygsmusic. See you all virtually next week!

The Music Department

## ABRSM

### Music Exams

Spring 2021

The Music Department will be hosting ABRSM practical music exams in Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021. If you would like to enter your child in for examination, please complete the Google Form [HERE](#) by 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021.





# The YoungMinds Wellbeing Advent Calendar



Looking after your wellbeing as you countdown to the holidays

The Wellbeing Advent Calendar is back!

Christmas is a fun and exciting time, but for some, it can leave them feeling anxious, lonely or stressed. The lead up to this year's festivities will be different to usual. For some pupils and their families, this time of year will be very difficult, especially for those who have experienced trauma or bereavement.

We've created another Wellbeing Advent Calendar to help support you, your pupils and your colleagues throughout December. Each day, try a different 5 minute activity to help boost wellbeing and look after our mental health in the lead up to the holidays.

Each activity can be adapted to be virtual and can be something you do as a class in tutor time, separately after lunch or your pupils can do it themselves at home with their families.

We love seeing how you use your Wellbeing Advent Calendar! So don't forget to send us any pictures or feedback to [360schools@youngminds.org.uk](mailto:360schools@youngminds.org.uk) or use the hashtag #360Advent and tag @YoungMindsUK on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.



## MONDAY

## TUESDAY

## WEDNESDAY

## THURSDAY

## FRIDAY

### 30 Christmas wish list

Get ready for December with a Christmas wish list for the world. Write down all the things that would make the world a better place for everyone.

**Tip:** Each pupil can write their list first, then this can be added to an ultimate class list.

### 1 Knock, Knock?

Ask each pupil to write down and share their favourite jokes to brighten up everyone's day.

**Tip:** To help them get started, here are some of our favourite jokes from [Beano.youngminds.org.uk/beano-jokes](http://Beano.youngminds.org.uk/beano-jokes)

### 2 The gift of giving

Share an act of kindness with someone in your school. It could be a kind word, a compliment, a smile. Think about how this made you feel and how this made them feel.

**Tip:** Take the gift of giving outside the classroom and show others that you're thinking of them.

### 3 Light up the Christmas Tree

Draw a Christmas tree that has five or more lights on it. Brighten up each Christmas light with the name of friends you can count on.

**Tip:** If a pupil is struggling, suggest someone in the class who is supportive, friendly or reliable.

### 4 Share something special

Ask your students to share with the class something that has really cheered them up when they were feeling down.

**Tip:** Ask your pupils to think about how it makes them feel and why.

### 7 Snowman of gratitude

Draw three circles to make the shape of a snowman. In each 'snowball' write the things you are grateful for.

**Tip:** You could extend this by asking pupils to carefully cut them out and stick them up around the classroom.

### 8 Have a giggle

Have a go at laughter yoga. Sit in a circle and laugh at everything and anything. What may start as a fake laugh will soon turn into a genuine free-flow of class happiness.

**Tip:** Warm up by clapping your hands and other playful exercises.

### 9 Letter from Santa

Write a letter that Santa could give to another pupil who is having a tough time.

**Tip:** Collect all the letters and each day spend 5 minutes reading one out to the class.

### 10 And breathe...

Start the day focusing on your breathing. Ask your class to close their eyes and listen to their breath as they inhale for four and exhale for four.

**Tip:** Get everyone out of their seats to sit or lie flat in a comfortable position anywhere in the classroom.

### 11 Positive paper chains

Give each pupil a strip of paper for them to write a positive message. Connect all the strips in a paper chain and display around the classroom.

**Tip:** Instead of connecting them put them, in a basket for pupils to take when they need a dose of positivity.

### 14 Superheroes unite!

Ask your class if they know a keyworker and draw them as an ultimate 2020 superhero. This could be teachers, nurses, bus drivers or shop workers.

**Tip:** Create the ultimate superhero individually or together on the whiteboard.

### 15 Christmas boogie

Ask the class to pick a tune to their favourite songs and have a sing and dance together.

**Tip:** Keep it festive and play music from films like Polar Express, Frozen or Home Alone.

### 16 Festive hats!

Have different coloured paper across each table and ask pupils to design or create a showstopping festive hat.

**Tip:** Punch two holes and add some string to hold the hats on their heads for the rest of the day.

### 17 Rainforest orchestra

Pick a pupil to start a clapping rhythm. One by one, ask each pupil to join in, until everyone is clapping. Direct them to clap louder, quieter, or stomp their feet to sound like a rainstorm.

**Tip:** Add in different animal sounds. End with shhh sounds as the animals go to sleep.

### 18 Have a restful day

Set aside time to relax. Christmas can be a stressful period so it's important that we look after ourselves.

**Tip:** Make time for your own self-care too. Ask your pupils and colleagues what they will be doing for self-care over holidays.



# COVID-19 CASES ARE RISING IN WELLING

Parents, carers and students - help keep your community safe

Do not send your child to school or to school events if they have symptoms



Wear masks on public transport

Remember social distancing at school entrance and exits - if they're busy wear your mask



Go straight home when school ends

Wash your hands often





## Report Lost Property

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. Please report lost property by clicking on the link [here](#). Thank you for your cooperation.

**Reception Team**

## Forthcoming events/ Important dates for your diary

### December

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> ~ YouTube - Winter Festival of Music streamed concerts (see notice)



Monday 14<sup>th</sup> ~ BGS PA Raffle - ticket sales deadline (see notice)  
~ PA Christmas Tree Decorating Contest - deadline for entry (see notice)



Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> ~ Last **full** school day before the Christmas Holiday  
(DATE CHANGED Please click on the link [here](#) to see Mr Elphick's letter)

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> ~ BGS PA Raffle - drawn (see notice)  
~ PA Christmas Tree Decorating Contest -  
~ winner announced (see notice)



### January 2021

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> ~ Week B

First day of the spring term all students return to school

Same arrangements as previously through separate gates:

- Years **11 and 13** ~ 8.30am
- Years **9, 10 and 12** ~ 8.40am
- Years **7 & 8** ~ 8.50am

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> ~ Deadline to register for ABRSM Music Exams (see notice)