



# Outstanding Examination Results for our IB Students

Many congratulations to our IB students for their truly outstanding examination results which were released last Thursday.

Parents of younger students in school will no doubt be interested in a few of the headline statistics, which augur well for the future of IB Diploma students at Bexley Grammar School when we move to an all IB sixth form in September. Highlights include:

- **30** students gained 38 points or more (our current Oxford offers were all for 38 points this year which makes the achievement of these 30 students all the more impressive);
- **81%** of all the grades were at the higher grades of 5, 6 or 7;
- **14%** of all the grades were at level 7, the highest in 5 years for these elusive top grades;
- The Average UCAS equivalence (new scoring system) is **4 A grades** at A level per student.



While there was success throughout the cohort it is perhaps worth highlighting Daniya Baiguzhayeva who achieved the perfect maximum point score of 45, Thomas Booker, who achieved 44 points, Isobel Robb, Maya Kirby, Joshua Masters and Sam Sherr who gained 43 and Lisa Clinch, Zoe Greenwood, Chloe Grewal and Robert Grogan who scored 42 points.

The average point score for the entire cohort of 108 students is 34 points which using the average UCAS equivalence (new scoring system) is **4 A grades** at A level.

While the academic achievements above are undoubtedly highly impressive, perhaps the most gratifying statistic is that currently 86% of the largest ever IB cohort have secured their first or second choice options for the Autumn and we know that they will be well equipped to take that next important step.

At this time, when we rightly celebrate academic success, it is worth remembering that every one of our students also successfully completed their Creativity Action and Service (CAS) requirements. CAS is an essential element of the Diploma Programme and all our students have managed to balance the academic demands and challenges of the past two years with a range of activities. While CAS is not formally assessed it does help develop our students and allow them to enhance their personal and interpersonal development by learning through experience.

I think colleagues at Bexley Grammar will join me in wishing every student success in the next stage of their development; whatever path they choose to take. It has been a privilege to have been their IB coordinator for the past two years and I sincerely hope that they will keep in touch with the school for many years to come.

# Great Success! MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT™



Spamalot is based on the traditional legend of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table and is described as being “lovingly ripped off” from the classic film comedy ‘MONTY PYTHON AND THE HOLY GRAIL’. It has a brilliant script, impeccably crafted songs in a wide variety of styles, a large band, great harmonies, physical comedy, large dance numbers and the opportunity to involve a wide range of people. We wanted to ensure we retained the humour of the British institution of Monty Python, alongside making the production relevant and appropriate for our students, and we thought long and hard about how to incorporate the themes and songs in the show.



The overriding theme of the show is a journey of self-discovery, of friendship, and of courage, things that we all need to remind ourselves of occasionally, and The Schools Edition was created in conjunction with Eric Idle, who wrote the Spamalot script, so it has retained the Python surrealness in all its glory. However, there are a few obvious changes if you know the original, we have added a few references to recent political developments and our local area, and we chose to give Sir Lancelot’s realisation of his sexuality (which is espoused in the song ‘His Name is Lancelot’) a ‘fantasy’ feel, making it a celebration of LGBT culture and 80’s disco with a ‘Pride’ carnival-esque rainbow theme. In a show otherwise set in Medieval Britain, this might be surreal, but it feels weirdly normal in a Python show! The production team has exceeded all expectation and the standard of previous productions, with more costume changes and props required than any show ever before! Miss Roberts’ choreography has added so much to the show; many people commented on the quality of the dancing this year, and Mr Laing did a superb job with the band, who played the challenging jazz-influenced Broadway score, which covers almost every possible musical style very professionally.



Changes to the global political landscape, in combination with the pressures of being in education whilst the government are making so many changes in the UK can feel pretty overwhelming at times, but I have to say that working on a show with such wonderful comedy, great dance numbers and feel-good music has been a real pleasure and our Friday rehearsals have sent us all home feeling uplifted, despite the shocking events that have occurred in the last few months. We have loved inhabiting this silly, surreal and wonderful world; it has been a privilege to work with such committed actors



and singers, and to see their confidence develop. It is amazing to see students develop skills and confidence as they progress through the shows: Matt Talbot for example, is playing the lead role of King Arthur this year after six years of being in the chorus / supporting roles, and we can already see in the younger members of the cast, the potential leads of the future. We can't wait to get to work on next year's school musical, which is going to be...

**SCHOOL OF ROCK!**



*Miss Swadkin, Musical Director*



## University of Sussex Robotics Day

On Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June, myself and a small group of other Year 9s, who are either taking Computer Science, Resistant Materials or Electronics, visited the University of Sussex with our Head of Year Mr Skinner. Throughout the day we learned a lot about programming and were given the chance to programme some robots.

When we first arrived we were put into groups and given a few small tasks, some much more difficult than others, such as programming one of the robots to move an arm or recognise a signal on a piece of paper. Throughout the day we all worked in teams to produce the same sequence of movements on each robot, trying to get our robots to do it as precisely as possible. The competition was a good addition at the end of the day as it made everyone try so much harder to beat the other teams. Despite one or two programming mishaps along the way, the purple team eventually won, which was my team!



Going to the University of Sussex was a great opportunity as we learned so much about programming as well as having the opportunity to use a program that many of us had never used before alongside having robots to program! We also gained a sense of what it was like to attend a university as many of us had never been to one before! We'd like to thank Mr Skinner for organising the day and allowing us to participate in a fantastic experience for us all!

*Megan Cane, Year 9*

## Design & Technology News

### Outstanding Achievement from Year 8 Design & Technology Students

After a visit by several Engineers to their Design lessons, Year 8 students were given free rein to design any product they think would have benefit to the world they inhabit now or in the future.

These were sent to the Secondary Engineering Leaders Award team who then scrutinise them and pick a selection that they feel represent the brilliant potential of our future Engineers and Designers.

From 4,000 entries **two** of our students were selected for special recognition, **Brook Lord** as a **category winner** and **Harvey Gosling** was **highly commended**.

Well Done to both this was a brilliant achievement. Read below for a parent's account of the evening.

*Miss Francis, Design Technology*



### Parent report on behalf of the Design & Technology Department

We had a lovely evening visiting the exhibition at UCL on Wednesday evening and I thought you'd like to see some photos from there. It was fascinating to see the innovative ideas that all ages of children had come up with. We were told that Harvey had done very well to receive Highly Commended for his design as there were over 2,000 entries from London.

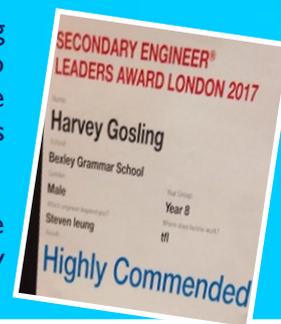
It was noticeable that most pupils were from private schools so we were especially proud to see Harvey and Brook's designs representing Bexley Grammar in such a good way, so I thought that was worth a note.

I'm hoping that a seed has been firmly planted in Harvey's imagination for a possible future path into Engineering and going up to UCL and speaking to the staff there has definitely made an impression on him.

Thank you again for entering the competition - I'm sure BGS will have as much success in it next year.

Kind regards,

*Kelly Gosling*



## Scholarship Success

The Arkwright Scholarship prize is one of the most prestigious ones out there for Secondary School children. Over 1500 pupils apply in the UK and with around 400 places for students from 900+ schools competition for places is tough. I have real pleasure in announcing our first ever Arkwright student. We are really proud to announce Mark Hawes was successful after a rigorous process of application, exam and interview. He will receive a generous bursary and support from a leading engineer during his studies up to university. Below is Mark's response in his own words



### How does it feel to win the prize?

At first, I was quite surprised to receive a scholarship because I wasn't expecting it and now that I actually have a scholarship, it feels great and gives me a good sense of accomplishment.

### What will it mean?

It will give me access to opportunities that would otherwise be unavailable (for example, Engineering experience days and university based VIP receptions.) In addition, it will give me access to a mentor to help me during my time in the sixth form and it will give me the chance to meet people in my desired career field.

### Which is most valuable the money or the Engineering Mentor?

For me, the Engineering Mentor will be most valuable because they will help me to develop my knowledge in the field of Engineering which will help me in the future.

### Have you always been interested in Science and Design?

I have always been interested in Design, but recently have become increasingly more interested in Science and am considering a career in Engineering.

### What other interests do you have?

I am interested in Maths, as well as a variety of sporting activities.

### What was the best bit of the process?

I think that the best part of the process was going to the interview because I got to meet people in a similar position to me and to take part in activities relating to the scholarship. And finally it gave me experience with interviews which will help me in the future.

### What was the most challenging?

I think that preparing for the interview was the most challenging because you don't know what to expect, so it is hard to feel fully prepared for the interview. And I had very little experience of going into interviews which made the whole process even more challenging.

### You had to attend an interview at Imperial College, where you met lots of other bright hopefuls. Was this intimidating?

In a way, it was intimidating to begin with because everyone there all had the same aims, and we were competing against each other. But after speaking to some of the other candidates I felt a lot more comfortable.

### Would you recommend the process explain why?

The process was a lot harder than I had expected, and required a lot of time and effort. But overall I would recommend it because even if you are unsuccessful, the experience that comes with the process is invaluable.

Mark will be returning to BGS to study the IB Diploma. He will be happy to talk to any Year 9 and 10 pupils who wish to apply for Arkwright Scholarships next year.



## PE News

### Sports Leaders

What a way to end the Sports Leaders Level 1 Award this year!

The Sports Leaders have been involved in many events including Mini-Tennis, Kwik Cricket, Rounders, Bexley Football Trials, Danson Primary School Sports Day and a Top Play Festival,

This week all their hard work culminated in a total of 240 pupils from 4 local primary schools enjoying a morning in the sun, carrying out 12 different activity stations on the field at BGS. The Leaders ensured a safe environment that was engaging and enjoyable for all pupils involved. I was really impressed with the way the Leaders took on the responsibility of looking after the younger pupils and the maturity with which they dealt with issues that arose during the day.



The hard work and effort the Sports Leaders have put in throughout has been amazing. 61 Year 10 pupils successfully completed the Award! Congratulations to you all and thank you for hosting so many events this year for local primary school children to take part in physical activity.

*Mr Mackle, PE Department*

### Let's Celebrate

The end of the year gives us the chance to celebrate the contribution of a number of students to sport and PE this year. Awards have been given out for Sportspeople of the Year in Years 7, 8 and 9; for Sports Leader of the Year and for Team of the Year. These awards are given to students who have demonstrated either excellence or commitment (or both) to sport and PE during the year and the students listed below exemplify what we are trying to achieve in PE at Bexley Grammar School. Well done and thank you to all of them.

*Mr Lines, Head of PE*

Team of the Year - Year 7 Rugby Team  
 Sportswoman of the Year - Year 7 - Hannah Monksfield  
 Sportsman of the Year - Year 7 - Albert Blakeley  
 Sportswoman of the Year - Year 8 - Sasha Hodden  
 Sportsman of the Year - Year 8 - God'sFavour Oluwanusin  
 Sportswoman of the Year - Year 9 - Eleanor Creevy  
 Sportsman of the Year - Year 9 - Sam Leighton  
 Sports Leader of the Year - Mia Damiral



## Art Exhibition

An exhibition to remember, Bexley Grammar's Art and Design students were outstandingly talented! An exhibition filled with colours, students from A Level Art, displayed to us both their sketchbooks and final pieces and many of the processes they carried out within their chosen subject. With sculptures and masses of paintings, many of the artworks valued the beauty within nature to which the students brought in their own unique style! Being an Art student myself, I was mesmerised by the skills and talent in each sketchbook I found as all portrayed an individuality to how they viewed art. The portrait was a popular theme within the exhibition, which was mainly exhibited on canvases... I was very amazed by one of the students' artwork who solely based it on the political issues in our society today...

With beautiful trails and lots of pom-poms! The exhibition also displayed the Textile students' coursework. Being a lover of fashion, I really appreciated how well the Textile students portrayed designer influences in their work and laid out amazing drawings of their ideas all on boards. Many of the pieces consisted of hand sewn embroidery which was a definite eye catcher to the viewers at the Exhibition! I adored the mermaid inspired dress, as it really conveyed the sea life atmosphere!

Not to forget the DT students who worked so hard all year, who displayed to us the products which they made themselves to suit a more sustainable environment! With their innovative ideas the students were able to create products which not only functioned well, but also looked quite modern!

An Exhibition to remember, The Bexley Grammar students have certainly done well!



## Year 11 Prom

Year 11 celebrated their Prom on Monday night following two years of hard work. Everyone looked incredible and the dance floor was bouncing throughout the night. Plenty of pictures were taken in the Prints Charming Photo Booth (don't forget to download them off their Facebook page!) and it was fantastic to see the students relax in the late evening sun. Additionally, many thanks to all the staff who helped out on the night. Mrs Boulden and I hope you had an excellent time and wish you all the best for the future.

*Mr Martin, Year 11 Senior Academic Mentor*



## Overseas Residential Trips 2017 – 2018

To help parents decide which overseas/residential visits they would like their child to participate in, we have drawn up a list of trips (including expected cost), that have been approved for 2017 - 2018.

Department	Trip	Date	Curriculum or Enrichment	Year group	Approx. Cost £	Number of students	Deadline for deposit
Classics	Greece	10-15 Feb 2018	Enrichment	9-13	£650	24	Done
Business & Economics	US Trip	Feb 2018	Enrichment	13	£1300	40	Done
MFL	Hamburg Exchange	June 2018	Curriculum	9	£300	15	22/09/2017
MFL	German Rhineland	June 2018	Curriculum	9	£450	60	06/10/2017
MFL	French St. Malo	June 2018	Curriculum	9	£450	75	06/10/2017
MFL	Málaga Exchange	23-29 May 2018	Curriculum	10	£400	20	06/10/2017
MFL	Sardinia	23-29 May 2018	Curriculum	10	£490	20	06/10/2017
MFL	Japan	October 2018 (17-29)	Curriculum	10-13	£1700	10	Done
MFL	China	July 2018 (18-27)	Curriculum	10-13	£2000	10	Done
MFL	Russia	Feb half term 2018	Curriculum	10-13	£1200	23	Done
MFL	Sixth Form Spanish Exchange	Easter 2018	Curriculum	12-13	£400	18	06/10/2017
MFL	Sixth Form Italian Exchange	Easter 2018	Curriculum	12-13	£450	20	29/09/2017
MFL	Sixth Form German Exchange	Easter 2018	Curriculum	12-13	£400	15	29/09/2017
MFL	Sixth Form French Exchange	Easter 2018	Curriculum	12-13	£400	15	06/10/2017

Department	Trip	Date	Curriculum or Enrichment	Year group	Approx. Cost £	Number of students	Deadline for deposit
History	Germany and Poland	May H/T 2018	Enrichment	10	£650	40	Done
History	US Trip	Feb H/T 2018	Enrichment	13	£1400	30	May
Music	Tour to Europe - Location tbc	July 2018 dates tbc, but last week of term	Enrichment	7-13	£600 - £700	30-40	October
Biology and Environmental System	Year 13 IB Flatford Mill Field Trip	20/11-22/11 2017 (3 days)	Curriculum	13	£216.15	55	Done
PE	Ski Trip - Les Deux Alpes	Feb H/T 2018	Enrichment & Curriculum	8-11	£899	51	Done

## Results Days - Summer 2017

### Year 12 & Year 13 GCE Examinations

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2017

From 10.30 am to 11.30 am

### Year 11 GCSE Examinations

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2017

From 9.30 am to 11.00 am



## Hot Teenage Topics - Important Safety Notice

**Our Met Police Safer Schools Team** has informed us that there is a new feature on the most recent update of Snapchat. The app can now pinpoint the location of your friends meaning that if you are a user your location is available to everyone who follows you. Obviously this could present a major safeguarding concern if used inappropriately as some students tend to have a number of followers whom they don't know.

The link below leads to a news report about this development and how to turn the feature off.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-40509281>

Mr Gilmore, Deputy Head

## Library News - Reading Lists

### Choose books to read this summer

Please have a look at our new Library page on the school website.

[\*\*BGS Library Reading List\*\*](#)

At the bottom of the page there are links to reading lists for Action series, Classics, Dystopian Worlds, Horror, Science Fiction, Fantasy, Gender and Identity, Mental Health and BAME authors. There is also a reading list created by Year 7 students for Year 6 students starting the school in September.

I am currently creating reading lists for fiction books on World War 1, World War 2 and Refugees and Asylum Seekers, so check back soon for these.

Mrs Carey, School Librarian



## End of Year House Keeping

### Music Department Is your Instrument in School?

If you own an instrument which is currently residing in school, please take it home before the end of term. I will assume that any unnamed instruments left in school after the end of term are owned by the Department.



*Miss Swadkin, Head of Music*

### Lost Property - Last Chance

Reception is holding a number of ladies and gents watches that have been handed in to reception, if your child has lost a watch over the last few months please contact us as we may have it.

**All enquiries regarding lost property for this term should be emailed to [reception@bexleygs.co.uk](mailto:reception@bexleygs.co.uk) by Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July at the latest. Regrettably, we are unable to keep unclaimed articles indefinitely so they will be recycled at the end of the term.**

Could you please ensure that all items of clothing and equipment are clearly named so that we can return items to their owners.

Reception



### Lockers



Please remind your children to empty their locker the last week of term as any remaining items will be disposed of.

Students will be issued with a new locker in September.

Thank you



# Class of 2016 - 2017

## Inspirational, Successful & Creative

September 2016



Results Day August 2016



Meeting Charles Boder Head of Nasa at the Science Museum



We Travelled the world with Google Expeditions



October 2016

We celebrated International Week



Building work started on the new Sixth Form study area and 200 seat auditorium



November 2016



We won both the male and female Kent Young Athlete of the Year titles



Year 13 students broke the BGS Oxbridge record



Year 9s slept over at the Science Museum

December 2016



Politics Students visited the Cabinet Office



The Wonderful Wizard of Oz was an Outstanding Success!



January 2017

Some of us visited The Oxford University Computer Science Fair



The Junior Choir Performed at the O2



Year 8 visited the BGS Europa Town

February 2017

We celebrated The Chinese New Year & Lantern Festival



March 2017

We dressed up for World Book Day on 2nd March



We finished 2nd in the Bexley Public Speaking Comp

April 2017



Iceland



We said goodbye to the Year 13 IB Class



We travelled to new destinations



Siena, Italy



May 2017



Young Enterprise It was official! Chameleon Dental the Best Company in East London



The Taming of the Shrew production opened our new 200 seat auditorium



BGS Book Shoppers Skyped author Ruta Sepetys



June 2017

Our Summer Fayre was a Success!



And Enrichment Week too



July 2017



Bexley Improv Group had a Masterclass with Seb de Krom, Jazz Drummer



And ended the year on a high with our hilarious Spamalot production



We held our annual Art & Design Exhibition



## News Items You May Have Missed

**Fantastic Opportunity for students aged between 14 and 16 ½**

## FIRE CADETS

The London Fire Brigade in Bexley is recruiting for new Fire Cadets to start in September. It offers students:

- The opportunity to develop Fire Brigade related skills aligned to a recognised qualification; the Edexcel 'BTEC Level 2 Award in Fire and Rescue Services in the Community'.
- There are 16 places available.
- The opportunity to learn and enhance life skills such as teamwork, leadership, problem solving, communication, H&S, first aid. And these are recognised within their LFB Portfolio.
- Previous cadets have also represented the Brigade at a number of events from local safety days, fundraising and commemorative events in London-wide and National events such as the Royal commemoration of the start of World War 1, the anniversary of Operation Dynamo, the London Marathon, The Lord Mayors Parade and last year, the Brigade's own 150<sup>th</sup> celebrations.

There is more information on the London Fire brigade website:

<http://www.london-fire.gov.uk/FireCadets.asp>

or email Ms Rock for a leaflet [rock\\_s@bexleygs.co.uk](mailto:rock_s@bexleygs.co.uk).

If you are interested, please see or email Ms Rock for a referral form but you must; Be able to commit to one evening a week – Tuesday between 6 – 9 pm for the duration of the course at Erith Fire Station, Belvedere. DA17 6HR.

**THE CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIPT OF REFERAL FORMS  
AT LONDON FIRE BRIGADE IS  
FRIDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY**

## PE News



## Shooters Hill LTC Summer Holiday Junior Coaching

All junior tennis players aged **11 - 18 years old** are invited to come along to experience 4 days of intensive drills, up to date technical advice and match play experience.

*Week 1 Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July to Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 3.30 – 5.30pm*

*Week 2 Monday 7<sup>th</sup> August to Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August 3.30 – 5.30pm*

*Week 3 Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August to Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August 3.30 – 5.30pm*

Cost per day is £12 members/£15 non members or  
£40 members/£50 non members for all 4 days.

Please book in before **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July** so we can plan and prepare to make the coaching as high quality as possible. If you cannot book before the date please call ahead to check availability.

To book in and arrange payment please contact Phil Layfield on  
[headcoach@shlhc.info](mailto:headcoach@shlhc.info) or call 07815927767.

Many thanks, Phil and the coaching team

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

## **Forthcoming Events**

### **July**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup>** ~ Speech Day - Early finish for students at 2.20pm

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup>** ~ Last Day of the Summer Term - Early finish for students at 12.15pm

### **August**

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>** ~ A Level Results Day

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>** ~ GCSE Results Day

### **September**

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup>** ~ Inset Day (School Closed to Students)

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup>** ~ First school day after the Summer Holiday - Students registration at the following times:

Years 7 and 12 at 8.30am

Years 8, 9,10,11 and 13 at 9.15am

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>** ~ Inset Day (School Closed to Students)

**This is the last edition of the Newsletter before the summer break.  
Look out for the summer Magazine next week.**

**Students return to school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

**Years 7 and 12 at 8.30am**

**Years 8, 9,10,11 and 13 at 9.15am**