

NEWS LETTER



8th July 2021

www.bexleygs.co.uk



OUR BEST EVER IB RESULTS!

Year 13 make BGS history...

Year 13 students at BGS have set new records in every measure of achievement in the IB with a stunning set of results. Read the full report [here](#).

MARSBalloon The exciting next instalment!

Though we haven't received our experiments back yet (they are on the way), a new photo has been released:

Here, it's possible to see one of our experiments (3rd column from the left, 3rd capsule up), the ground below, the curvature of the Earth, and the stunning fade of the atmosphere to the blackness of space, all in a single image! It's incredible to think how high our experiments have gone!



Credit: [@futuremartianUK](#)

There's also a video available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G2QEzlvM9Sk>, which has some video clips from the flight, and tells the story of the preparation and recovery of the balloon.



We also have an exciting update to share:

WE WON AN AWARD!

Last Friday, MARSBalloon announced the winners of its six awards: three for primary schools, and three for secondary schools. The very first school to be mentioned was... ours! We have won the VIP / Industry Choice award!

We were chosen by Paul Smith, Head of Robotics Exploration at none other than the UK Space Agency (how cool is that?!) He said:

"Electronics and radiation are something every engineer and astronaut needs to take into account, but the team here identified a simple but elegant solution to testing for failure and identified that temperature may also have an impact and designed the software itself to be robust and self-rebooting. I was very impressed with their attention to detail and wider application of space exploration knowledge."

I'm super proud and excited, and I really want to thank Mr Villazon for his support on the project and helping make it possible!

If you'd like to find out more, we've set up a Twitter account: [@BexleyGSSpace](https://twitter.com/BexleyGSSpace). Feel free to check it out if you're interested!

Stay tuned for more news when the experiments arrive back!

Sam Wilson, Year 12



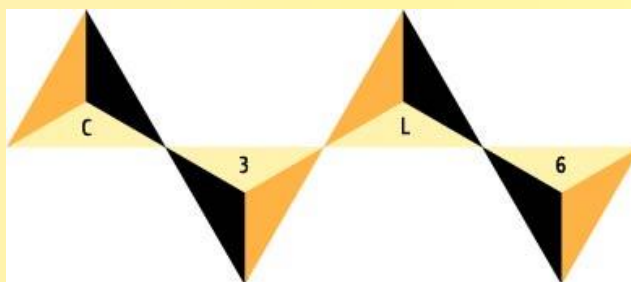
Cambridge Chemistry Challenge Lower 6th

On Thursday 25th June, the following Year 12 students took part in the Chemistry Cambridge Challenge; Miriam Basheer, Kweku Brobbery, Weronika Bucko, Lauren Dempsey, Max Hickman, Victoria Joyce, Emilio Mendoza, Dilshanth Nagulathas, Alejandro Obeso Foreno, Emilija Verbaityte and Simon Woods.

The students completed a particularly challenging 90 minute paper with questions ranging from thiocyanates to oxidation, reduction and ferrets!

Congratulations to all students who participated and in particular to Weronika, Lauren, Dilshanth and Simon who achieved the Copper Award.

Mrs Moore,
Key Stage 5 Leader, Lead Teacher Chemistry



Cambridge Chemistry Challenge Lower 6th



STAR STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



English Star Students

The Sapphire Shield

well done!

Shadows danced across the small, dark alleyway. Raphael shivered, not from cold but because the alleyway had dark energy coming from it; he could feel it. His back hurt, the thing he was carrying in his backpack was heavy. As if to reassure himself, he put his hand to his belt, the familiar shape of his sword comforting him slightly. High-pitched giggles entered his ears and Raphael looked up. A dainty figure stepped out from the shadows. Surprise clouded Raphael's features as he looked at the young girl. Her blood-red dress swished across the ground as she walked towards Raphael. As she neared, Raphael froze in shock as he saw her dress in more detail. He could still see traces of the pink beneath the blood caked all over the dress.

Old Friend

Well, I don't exactly remember why it happened- that's just how it was. And now the room, smothered in crystals and sharp shards of glass, still somehow remained intact. The thousands of imprints on it still lay in pristine condition, but there was always that one that I could never take my eyes off of. The red one.

Ashna Adhikari, Year 7

The Elemental Beginner

Luke was kicked in the shins and was nearly thrown off the building but managed to clasp onto a narrow ledge. His whole body was vibrating. 'Any final comments?', asked Crimson Exodus, devilishly. Suddenly, Luke had a flashback of a monk telling him of his future and of how he was destined to save an alternate planet. This caused him to let go of all fears and control all the anger inside of him, which seemed to make him feel as if he were an unstoppable force, letting go of the paper-thin ledge using his new water ability to propel himself in the air - blowing an extremely surprised Crimson Exodus into the police helicopter, 'See you never!', smiled Luke with pride.

Saimom Islam, Year 7

Is the fire still Burning?

I sit in the chair: tied up, struggling, squirming. I see him. The same guy who killed my best friend - Seth Maccles. His eyes don't glint now though, they scream. He adjusts his tie and wipes the ash from his shirt. He smiles and whispers "You'll die the same way he did".

He snaps his fingers and a flame as orange as sunset rises from his palm. He



aims his hand at me and says "Pray, tell me Officer: in hell - is the fire burning? Or is it engulfing souls?"

He chuckles hysterically once more and I take my last breath...

Jessica Davis, Year 7



Keep Running

My heart beats out of my chest as I sprint inhumanly fast down the narrow track of tarmac set into the deep red stone of Mars. A metallic voice screeches in my ear, the ear of the boy with his track next to mine, the ear of the hundred boys next to him and the ears of the 60,000 boys all sprinting down their own dark track. "Movvvveeee FASTER!" I pump my arms and blur my legs with such speed that it feels like I'm flying. Except you can't be free if your hands are always chained. My dark hair sticks to my forehead and I focus on the light thrumming of my feet against the tarmac: *Thudthud. Thudthud.* As much as I'd like to, I can't stop, can't take a proper breath. Everyone knows what happens if you stop running.

Naima Mendjeli, Year 7

STAR STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



Geography News

Quick brain teaser

How much do you know about?



Email Mrs Belton-Owen with your answers, merits on offer or if you get them all right: **A SEAL OF APPROVAL!**



Well done to those students that took part last week.

This week the Geography of Ice cream as we all love ice cream when the sun is shining.

- 1) Which Middle Eastern country is the top producer of pistachios?
- 2) Which city in Italy claims to be the home of Neapolitan ice cream?
- 3) True or false: Madagascar is the world's top producer of vanilla?
- 4) True or false: It is possible to eat ice cream in space?
- 5) Where in the world invented the ice cream cone and when?



Juicy fact: Mrs Belton-Owen's favourite ice cream is dark chocolate flavoured from Annecy in France. Miss Ashman's favourite ice cream is pistachio, eaten next to the Trevi fountain in Rome.



Safeguarding Notice

Please see this flyer below from the CouRAGEus project. This is a diverse group of organisations who work with young women affected by violence and abuse. They support Black and minoritised young women. This includes those from ethnic minority groups, LGBT+ and disabled young women.



H.J. Gilmore
Deputy Head and Designated Safeguarding Lead



The flyer features a bright yellow background with a pink diagonal stripe. At the top, the 'CouRAGEus' logo is displayed in a stylized font. Below the logo, the text 'What is The CouRAGEus Project?' is followed by a description of the project's mission. A list of four criteria for support is provided, each preceded by a speech bubble icon. At the bottom, an illustration shows five diverse young people: a woman in a pink hijab, a man with orange hair, a woman with dark skin and a colorful headwrap, a woman with glasses, and a woman with dark skin. One person holds a yellow megaphone that says 'YOU SPEAK' and another holds a yellow sign that says 'WE LISTEN'.

What is The CouRAGEus Project?

We are a diverse group of organisations who work with young women affected by violence and abuse.

We support **Black and minoritised young women**. This includes those from ethnic minority groups, LGBT+ and disabled young women. We can support you if:

- You are aged 14-24
- You are worried about or have experienced violence, abuse or exploitation
- You live, work or study in any London Borough
- You are experiencing trauma or emotional distress

We know that young women and girls are often overlooked or misunderstood so we work together to ensure that you get the support you deserve.



1:1 Advocacy

Advocacy is emotional and practical support which helps you to have your voice heard, ensuring you get all the resources you need to move forward.

Your advocate will work alongside you and can help to raise concerns – for example with teachers and social workers.

Counselling

Counselling offers you the opportunity to talk to someone 1:1 to process difficult emotions and experiences.

This can support your wellbeing by building on your personal strengths. Our specialist young women's counsellors will listen to you, respect and believe you.

Community Engagement Work

This is about us coming out to you to raise awareness and offer support. We offer workshops, activities and group work to increase awareness of violence and abuse, and to build young women's resiliency.

We also provide training to professionals and parents to ensure the whole community is empowered to support you.

Experts by Experience Programme

Young women are experts in their own lives: you know best how services can support you. We have lots of opportunities for young women to help shape the support we offer whilst learning new skills. This means our work is always led by the needs and wishes of young women like you.

We respect your privacy!

This means we will not share information about you without your consent unless you or someone else is at risk of serious harm.

If we think we might need to share any information about you we will talk to you about this first.

We see you for you!

We understand that finding the right support can be difficult. We are a diverse group of organisations who will work together to ensure you get the best support for your needs.

We celebrate diversity!

We understand the challenges that come with the different parts of your identity as a young woman – including ethnicity, disability, class, immigration status, gender and sexual orientation. We are here to work with you to overcome these challenges.

We believe in healing!

We understand the impact of trauma on your wellbeing and behaviour. We do not judge you because of the difficult experiences you have had. We will support you to move forward.

CouRAGEus is a London VAWG Consortium partnership led by Women and Girls Network.

WOMEN & GIRLS NETWORK

advance
SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

Ashiana

galop
safe | just | fair

IKWRO
WOMEN'S RIGHTS ORGANISATION

JEWISH WOMEN'S AID

nia

RESPOND
from hurting to healing

solace

Southall Black Sisters

For information about how to access CouRAGEus support please visit wgn.org.uk/CouRAGEus or email CouRAGEus@wgn.org.uk.

@womenandgirlsnetwork



PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SHOP

Outgrown uniform in good condition can now be recycled by donating it to our Pre-loved Uniform Shop

At Bexley Grammar we want to encourage recycling to reduce landfills. Every week we acquire many items of unnamed lost property. Many of our parents have also mentioned that they have items of unwanted uniform that their children have outgrown. With your support and with the help of volunteers, we would like to offer a Pre-loved Uniform Shop.

If you have any clean, outgrown BGS uniform, in good condition that you would like to donate to our Pre-loved Uniform Shop, please hand your items into the school reception before the end of term. We would be happy to receive outgrown rugby tops, trousers, skirts, blazers, jumpers etc...

We intend to hold the pre-loved uniform sale during the first week of the holidays when the Summer School is taking place. All parents will be welcome to come along to browse and pick up spare items. Dates and times to be announced.

If our Pre-loved Uniform Shop project is successful we hope to arrange collections and sales on a regular basis. All money raised from uniform sales will go directly back to the school.

Salvation Army

You may be interested to know, that over the past few years we have also had a Salvation Army clothing collection bin in the school grounds for unwanted items of clothing and to date we have raised £500. Salvation Army collection bags can be obtained from the reception.

Many thanks

Mrs Beasley, Reception





Hello Fellow BGS Students

If you are a member of Y8 or Y9, and love videogames, board games and card games, come to our brand new club we are starting as of Monday 12th of July! You are welcome to bring your nintendo switch and game with your friends or even play on the club owned nintendo Wii.

So, if you fancy joining us, email us at:

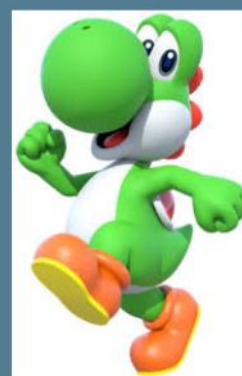
GamesClubBGS@gmail.com

Once confirmed we will send you when and where!

We are limited to 20 people.

Be quick!!!

Gaming Club





News items that you may have missed

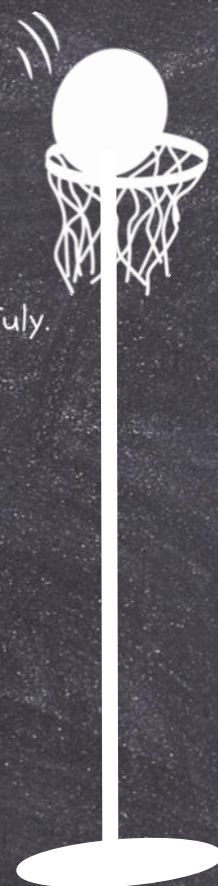
Year 7 Charity Netball Tournament to support our school Library

Friday 16th July at 3:15pm

All proceeds to our school Library to buy us new books!
To participate, please bring £2 to Mrs Carey in the Library by Monday 12th July.

Any further donations are very welcome!

Caitlyn Osei-Tutu, Year 7



Sponsored Mini Marathon in aid of the Greenwich & Bexley Community Hospice

I am running in the Mini Marathon fundraising for The Greenwich and Bexley Community Hospice. I feel that everyone deserves the best care in life. I love to help the community. I have participated since I was nine. I have previously reached my target of £100 for my cause and, this year, I am hoping to double my target and raise £200. My younger brother Talha is also taking part this year to help raise money for this cause. If you'd like to support my brother and I please donate on the link below.

<https://qbch.enthuse.com/pf/usman-kayani/post/698860>

Usman Kayani, Year 7





Bexley Grammar School Parents' Association

Thank you parents & staff for supporting the Summer Raffle!

We would like to thank local businesses
and PA members for donating raffle prizes:

Robinson and Jacksons - Welling
Morrisons - Welling
The Entertainer - Bexleyheath
Asda - Bexleyheath
Barrett & Coe
Long Haul Micro Pub
Bake by Design
Spices Indian Takeaway
Flamingo Products - Kate Porte
Reign & Soap
Kassiopi Cove Soft Play
Nail Bird - Emma Garland

Winning Ticket Numbers

309	1153
181	1181
905	659
1372	1355
1487	1134
1294	980





BGS ARTSFEST!

TUESDAY 20 JULY 2021

4 - 6PM

To mark the end of the school year, Music, Drama, Art and DT have come together to put on our own festival for you! Featuring exhibitions, food, music and drama, there will be something for everyone!

**TICKETS: £5
PER HEAD
(AVAILABLE ON
PARENTPAY)
BRING A
DECKCHAIR OR
PICNIC RUG**



MUSIC INSTRUMENTAL LESSON APPLICATIONS FOR 2021-22 ARE NOW OPEN!

We offer lessons on a number of instruments, from cello, violin, flute, clarinet, piano, brass and drum kit! FutureDJs will also be making a return.

If you'd like to start lessons at BGS next year, click on the link below!

APPLY ONLINE

**[HTTPS://WWW.BGSPERFORMINGARTS.COM/
INSTRUMENTAL-LESSONS.HTML](https://www.bgsp Performing Arts.com/instrumental-lessons.html)**



Forthcoming Events

July

Monday 12th ~ Year 8 Virtual Appointment booking system closes at midday

Tuesday 13th ~ Year 8 Virtual Parents' Evening 4pm-6.30pm

Tuesday 20th ~ BGS Artsfest (see notice)



Wednesday 21st ~ Last day of summer term