

NEWSLETTER



12th October 2021

www.bexleygs.co.uk
**Year 7 Open
Experience Edition**

Welcome to Bexley Grammar School

Starting in Year 7 can be worrying, let alone a new school. However, in reality, there is not much to be scared about, even if you don't know anybody, you are guaranteed to make friends. You will also get used to being in a different environment. Although secondary school is much bigger than what you are used to in primary school, you will easily learn your way around and will memorise your way to lessons within a couple of days. Even if you are unable to find your way around the school, you will definitely be able to find a teacher or older student to show you the way. People are always happy to help you find classrooms, as well as the teachers whilst you're in learning. Making mistakes is one of the best ways to help you learn, if that means getting lost on your way to a lesson or not knowing the answer to a question.



Lessons at Bexley Grammar will most likely be different to what you did at your time in primary school. Despite this, you are able to study either German or French, depending on which house you are in, as well as Latin and a third language in Year 8. There is a massive variety of languages to pick from such as; German, French, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Japanese and Chinese. Some of the more creative lessons include; Art, D&T, Computer Science, Drama and Food Tech which involve the skills of being confident, artistic and imaginative.

You will also be able to take part in lots of different activities like netball, football or basketball as well as things like school productions and a variety of different Music clubs.

Year 7 is a very exciting year, you are able to experience a great number of things you haven't before as it is full of intriguing, inspiring and compelling activities and opportunities. You will learn a vast amount of fascinating things from Languages to Maths and English.

Good luck and I'm sure you all will have an amazing time at Bexley Grammar.

Abigail



Starting Bexley Grammar has been a great experience so far- I'm only four weeks in!

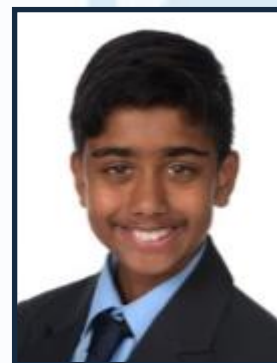
At first, it's a big step from primary school, where do I begin? You move classrooms and you have to carry all your books, so you have to remember more each morning. It may feel scary at first, however after a few weeks at Bexley Grammar, you're guaranteed to know your way around the school. The map helped me a lot.

The teachers are delightful, and they are there to help you when you're struggling. In primary school, there were not as many opportunities, but in Bexley Grammar you have lots of chances- including new topics, sports and experiences. I am in Orange House, known as Wellman, and we hold lots of house events and have opportunities to join lots of different sports, such as football, netball, basketball, rugby, cricket, rounders and athletics. You can also experience and learn lots of different languages such as Latin, German, French, Spanish, Italian, Japanese and Chinese. The language teachers are some of the greatest language teachers in the UK.

I hope you have a great final year of primary and I can't wait to be seeing you visit the school, and hopefully come to Bexley Grammar next September.

Louie

On the morning of my first day at Bexley Grammar School I was filled with mixed emotions as I entered this new chapter in my life. I felt gushes of excitement running through me but at the same time I could feel butterflies in my stomach. I walked through the gate with my friend and we were guided to the tennis courts where we met the rest of our form and our form tutor, Mr Oyedeji. Due to Coronavirus we all had to do Covid testing then we got started on our day. Our first day was going through all our lessons and getting to know each other. We were all nervous as most of us did not know each other; I was fortunate enough to see a familiar face from primary school. Slowly we grasped our new way of life as we eased into the first week of secondary school.



Our first week was really just learning our way around the school and getting yourself familiar with the timetable. The hardest part was finding our way to all our classes; luckily we had friendly Sixth Formers to assist us on the way. We were also glad that we were allocated lockers so that we could store our P.E bags in there. This enabled us to move around school easily and not have to worry about our P.E. bag. We also experienced for the first time homework with strict deadlines that meant that failure to do so would result in a detention.

Admittedly, my transition was made easier as I have an older brother at Bexley Grammar School in Year 9. This meant that he was able to advise and guide me when I needed it. I am looking forward to the next few years at Bexley



Grammar where I can expand my knowledge in all different types of subjects. I am also excited to join all the different clubs and try out different house activities.

Idris

I have really enjoyed Bexley Grammar school because everyone there is really nice and is always ready to help if you get lost or need something. The school seemed giant at first and I wasn't sure I'd ever get used to it, but it was surprising how quickly it seemed normal and no longer gigantic. My favourite subject is Art, because you can be really creative and try new styles of drawing. However, I have enjoyed all subjects as they are all very interesting and you get the chance to learn something you didn't know before or maybe find that a subject is more interesting than you thought it was.



Sofia

Extra-curricular clubs

In BGS we do a variety of clubs right now. I attend the Netball Club, the Choir and the Orchestra.

Netball Club

In the Netball club everyone is there by self-opt in. We learn about footwork, positions and wearing bibs. You do learn all these things in P.E but it does take over a term whereas in the Netball club, I guarantee you after just less than three times of going, you will be playing like a pro. All Forms in Year 7 are invited so you will also get to mix with a lot of different people.



Junior Choir

I have just started going to the Junior Choir, so far it's really fun. Mrs Eacott is really nice and we sing lots of fun songs. At the moment, we are singing a song called 'Speechless' from the new Aladdin film, which is sung by Jasmine. The Junior Choir is for both boys and girls and anyone can sign up.

Orchestra

The Orchestra only just officially started and so far all I know is that we will be playing the theme tunes from the 'Avengers', 'Polar Express' and also 'It's Beginning to look a lot like Christmas'.

If you would like to join the Orchestra all you need to have completed is your Grade 2 music exam, or be working towards it. I play the piano and I'm currently at Grade 4, but I've never played in an orchestra before so I'm really excited to hear what it sounds like when we play all together.

Caitlyn



A Message from Mr Elphick, Headteacher to Year 6 Pupils 2021

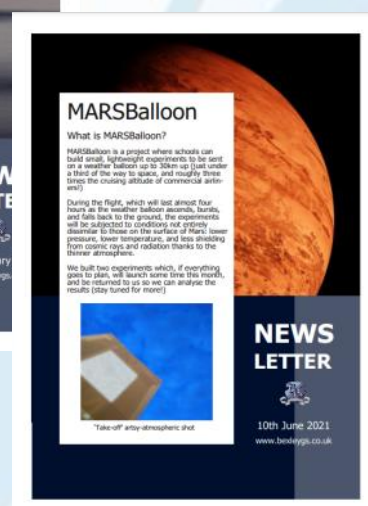
Current year 7 students - Abigail, Louie, Idris and Sofia - welcomed you to this Open Day Special edition of our weekly newsletter because it is students who are best placed to tell you what you want to know. At Bexley Grammar School, we understand that moving from primary to secondary school can be a daunting experience, but, in addition to our friendly students, our dedicated, committed staff are here to give you constant support and advice to ensure a smooth transition. The most important things you can do are make new friends, get involved and enjoy yourself!

We offer so many fantastic opportunities from the very beginning of Year 7 to ensure that you become part of our vibrant and exciting community. Caitlyn, in year 8, who is speaking at our open mornings, has shared her experiences of a few of these opportunities having not had much chance to do so because of Covid restrictions last year. Our students make this the outstanding school that it is. Together, with energy, imagination and commitment, with determination, creativity and a willingness to participate, Bexley Grammar School will help you to develop the knowledge and confidence to reach your full potential and succeed in future endeavours.

Assuming the pandemic is under control and we are fully back to normal next September, this is what you and your parents might expect during the first few weeks: Your parents will meet tutors twice with you, once for a 5 minutes 'touch base' meeting after a couple of weeks, and once at the Parents' Association BBQ. You will have an extra-curricular 'fair' where you are able to visit stalls telling them all about the activities on offer to year 7 - about two dozen clubs/activities! We usually have a music concert in which the whole of year 7 is jammed into the school hall with your parents for a startling performance after only 5 or 6 music lessons! Our trained year 12 peer mentors would be meeting with you all and seeing some of you for 1-1 meetings. Our programme of trips and visits both at home and abroad would have been underway...

There is a great deal to look forward to. I look forward to welcoming those of you who are successful in joining us in September 2022!

(The link [here](#) will take you to our weekly newsletters which will add flavour to the richness of the experience that we offer.)





A taste of
life at Bexley
Grammar for a
Year 7 Student



STAR STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



English Star Student

A Smiling World

Imagine the World as a better place,
With a big smile plastered on every face.

There will be no rubbish on pathways and streets,
The seas free of toxic chemicals and plastic debris.

Food will be grown with love, no poisoned meat.
With gas free commuting, fresh air we will breathe.

Imagine the World as a better place,
With a mammoth smile resting on every face.

No one will starve, for even a day.
All animals cared for, there will be no lonely stray.

Each child will be raised with love and with care.
Having sweet dreams at night, playing happily by day.

Imagine the World as a better place,
With a gigantic smile adorning every face.

The bullies will convert to say thank you and please.
The wars would all stop, leaving brothers in peace.

No lying, no thieving, no drugs, and no crime.
When needed, all aid will get there right on time.

Imagine the World as a better place,
With a pleasant smile accessorising every face.

The new World will leave us all colour blind.
As we shall leave all our differences behind.

We will have good leaders, not selfish or mean.
Let us work together to fulfil this dream.

Imagine the World as a better place,
With a glorious smile enriching every face.



Karan Abrol , Year 7



English Star Students

Well done to Ariana Laing and Dylan Banks in 7PDH for their amazing work ethic so far. Here's a snippet of their impressive entries for the 500 Word Short Story competition:

Ariana:

Blinking furiously, his surroundings came whirring back into view. The blurred faces of worried nurses staring down at him dominated his vision and the bleeping of machines filled his ears. It wasn't hard to work out where he was, but how and why he was there, he did not know. He later became aware of the smell of strong medicine and knew that he was not the only one there. Reaching for his glasses, he realised that his arm would not move in the direction he wanted it to. Confused, he tried again. The same happened the second time and by the third, he had completely given up. Something had happened since this morning and one thing was clear to him... it wasn't good.

Dylan:

A booming voice echoed across the plane; it was the Captain.

"Don't worry everyone! Just a little bit of turbulence, we will get back to our smooth flight as soon as possible".

That is what everyone thought, but by the weariness in his voice, I knew something was up. I tried not to think about it. Then another 'bit of turbulence' shook the whole plane again. But that was not my concern. My concern was the ear-piercing alarm that rang throughout the plane: everyone was screaming.

I grabbed the nearest oxygen mask and thrust it onto my face. I immediately went into the brace position. I could tell we were getting nearer to the ground as the seconds went by. My life flashed before my eyes, sweat trickled down my forehead. I panicked, I screamed, I was terrified, I was shaking. All these emotions were triumphed by fear, what would happen next? I was surely going to die.

Year 7 English 500 Word Story Competition

The Process...

1. Write your 500 word short story.
2. Check and edit your work using tips from the workshop with Erin Everleigh.
3. Submit your final draft to your teacher to be assessed by the deadline your teacher gives you.
4. Your class teacher will choose a class winner by the second week after half term.
5. The English prefects will judge the best stories from this selection.

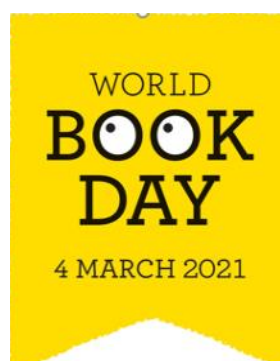
Winners will receive

Two copies of their story, published in a short story collection. Editing tips from a published author.

All Year 7 pupils who enter the competition will receive a copy of BAILEX Volume 1 by Erin Everleigh. (More details to follow)

BGS English in association with Little Ox Press and Wordsmithers Academy





Thursday 4th March is World Book Day! It is a shame we cannot celebrate in person, but we look forward to our virtual events. Please look at the upcoming events, run by the English Department and our school Librarian, Mrs Carey ([here](#)). Hopefully you'll be able to participate in a few of these .

Author's Workshop

During the last week, students from the lower years were invited to join in a virtual meeting with author and illustrator, Liz Pichon (thanks to Mrs Carey for organising this). They learned how to doodle in the style of the illustrator, whilst also participating in a Q&A. Here is a sample of illustrations and reflections from the attendees:

The event began at 2pm, with Pichon showing us a collection of doodles that she had drawn. She read an extract from her newest book, 'Ten Tremendous Tales', in celebration of ten years of Tom Gates! She read an extract of Tom recalling his conversation with Delia after she was told to babysit him. It was a very good story! All in all, it was a really cool event where we learnt tips for writing and drawing. I really enjoyed learning how to draw Tom Gates.



Anis Houmani



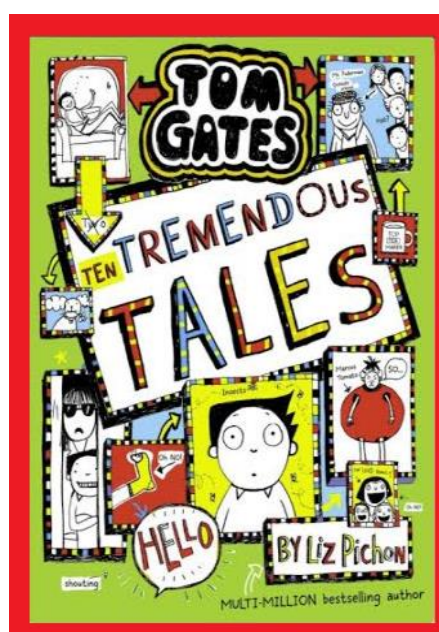
Elizabeth Smirnova



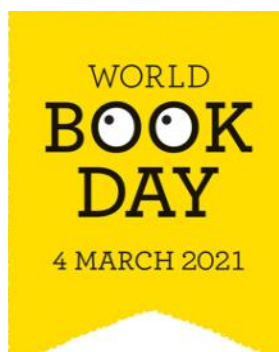
Isabelle Raphael

The live stream with Miss Pichon was very exciting as the Tom Gates book series was one that I loved when I was in Year 4. The call was very interesting as there were a variety of activities. These included: drawing, asking questions and hearing stories about Pichon's writing. *I enjoyed the doodle session, as it* was very interesting to see how she creates her illustrations. One thing I didn't anticipate was that she answered our questions, which gave a more personal touch to the event. Overall, it was a good experience and I hope we have more events like it in the future. Due to the pandemic, it has been impossible to go on trips, but this was just as fun!

Aggeliki Mirza, Year 7



Jessica Davis, Year 7



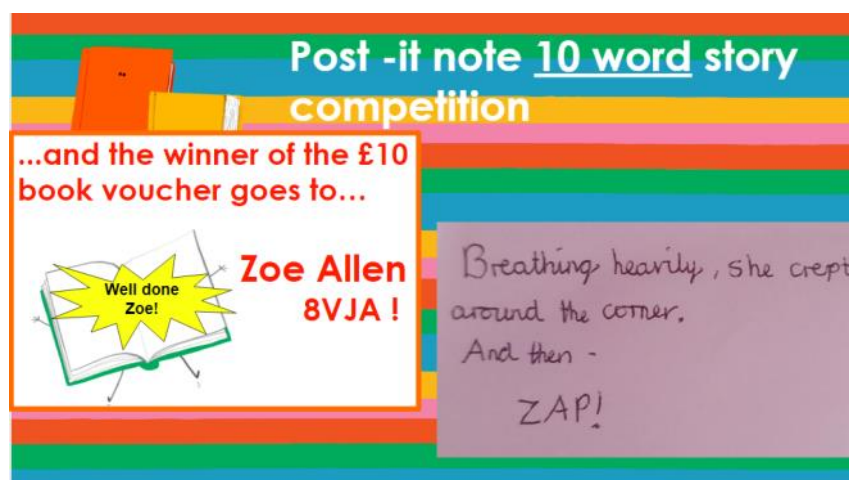
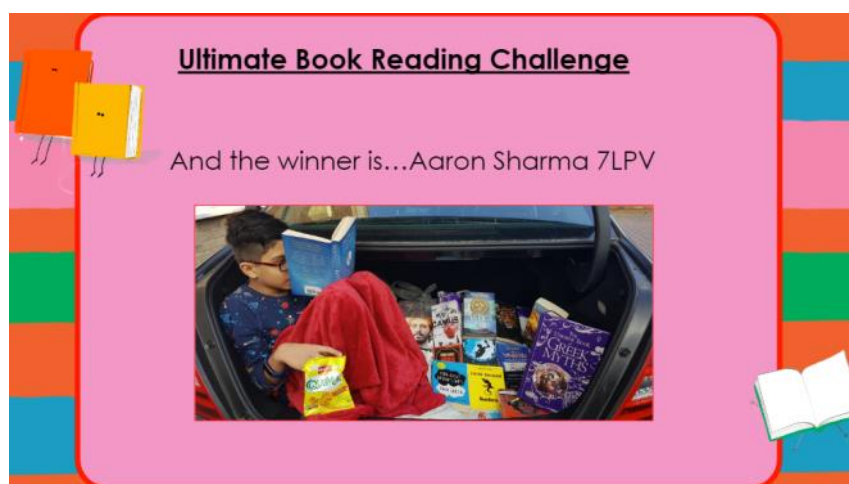
World Book Day 2021

It's been a very busy week in the Library and English Department this past week! There were a series of events and competitions to celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 4th March. In addition, we celebrated International Women's Day on Monday 8th March.

Please take a look at the [attached slides](#) for a few of the highlights from World Book Day. Well done to everyone who took part in any (or all) of the events - a few of the competition runners up have been included in too. Please check out their entries. A special congratulations goes to our winners of the World Book Day competitions: Aaron Sharma 7LPV and Zoe Allen 8VJA. They each have won a £10 book voucher!

Below are their winning entries.

Ms Adeaga, English Department



For International Women's Day, please look out for a themed English lesson this week. Well done to Emily Falegan, our English Prefect.

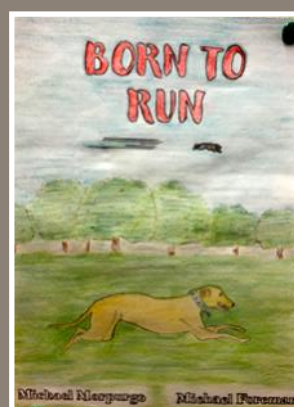
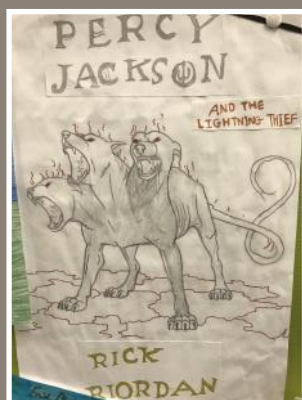


Year 7 Book Cover Project

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





I'm an Engineer, Get Me Out of Here!



On two consecutive Wednesdays M16 was bustling with the enthusiasm for the live chats with Space Engineers! Year 7 paved the way asking insightful and interesting questions. This was followed the next week by Year 12. In both sessions I was very proud of how well our students engaged with the activity and managed to dig deep into the working lives of the engineers. It was a chance to find out about what it is really like to be an engineer working in the field of space exploration and investigation, and our students made excellent use of this opportunity.

On Wednesday 18th November, a group of Year 12 physics students and I had the fantastic opportunity to do a live chat with some space engineers and find out more about their careers. It was organised on the website 'I'm an engineer, get me out of here' where current engineers can sign up to volunteer for a text based chat with students who are interested in their field. We were very lucky to speak to four engineers: Marina, who studies landslides by using AI and satellite imagery, Tris, who builds science instruments for space missions, John, who works for the Airbus Space Engineering Academy and Yannick, who works on specialised sensors that detect radioactive material. The questions asked ranged from which subjects to take at school, to what the engineers like doing in their free time.* One thing that I learned from this session is just how diverse the field of engineering is, as well as how integral it is to our daily lives e.g. Marina is currently working on predicting landslides near a road in Spain that could save many lives in the future! It was also very interesting to find out about the amazing experiences that these engineers' careers have led to - during his career, John has broken a world record whilst carrying out a flight test of a new solar powered aircraft in the USA, as well as having visited schools with the astronaut Tim Peake's parents, while Tim was in space! This made me realise how exciting a career in engineering can be (who wouldn't want to meet Tim Peake!), and helped me to confirm that it is something I want to do in the future. I think everyone who came can agree that it was a very enjoyable and informative session, and that it was great to talk to real life engineers currently in the field. Thank you to them for this opportunity!

If you're interested in engineering as a career or want to find out more, check out the website - <https://imanengineer.org.uk>. It is very easy to register and it will let you post questions to the engineers, vote for your favourites and even join the open live chat that takes place on Thursday's 7-8pm!

In case you're wondering, taking Physics and Maths is probably not a bad idea. And as for hobbies, Lego and building robots definitely came up!

Ugne Stanzyte, Year 12

I thoroughly enjoyed the chat with the engineers. We were warmly welcomed by the host of the room and then all of the engineers sent an introduction of themselves and their jobs into the chat. We asked an abundance of questions which were all thoughtfully answered. This experience was truly memorable as we were able to make contact with real engineers which had and are still working for recognisable companies such as NASA and the ESA (the European Space Association)! This was a once in a lifetime opportunity and I am extremely happy that I was part of this inspiring experience and I cannot wait to take part in future Science Club sessions!

Louis Luckman, Year 7



Science Club

Live chat with space engineers Week 1- Wed 11th Nov M16 start of lunch

Quiz real engineers about their exciting jobs and how they became space engineers.

A live text based chat for 30 minutes with real engineers.

What will you ask them?

- Have you been to space?
- What subjects did you like at school?
- Have you designed or built a rocket?
- How do I become a space engineer?!

Meets: Week B ~ Wednesday lunch in M16
(come at the start of lunch)

A science club with a difference!

Session 1 - Live online chat with real SPACE ENGINEERS

Session 2 - Come along to find out the fortnightly challenge. Watch a cool science demo then try it at home!

Session 3 - Share your experiences of the last challenge and find out the next one!

Students see
Ms Lusted's
email to
take part





BGS Students Participate in the 2020 Bebras Challenge

The Computer Science department has once more run the Bebras challenge for all our KS3 pupils and those in Year 10 and 12 Computer Science, and once again we have had spectacular success. There are three levels of award for this challenge: participation, merit and distinction. Overall 689 pupils took the challenge and I am pleased to report that 26% received the highest award distinction.

Special congratulations should be given to: Lev Griffin, Ashton Seager and Andy Yu, all three of whom got 200 marks out of the possible 200 on offer and Naima Mendjeli who achieved 189 marks.

Those who were awarded the distinction will now be invited to take the next set of national challenges and thus be given the opportunity, if successful there, to go to the national finals.

Mr Leaman
Head of Computer Science

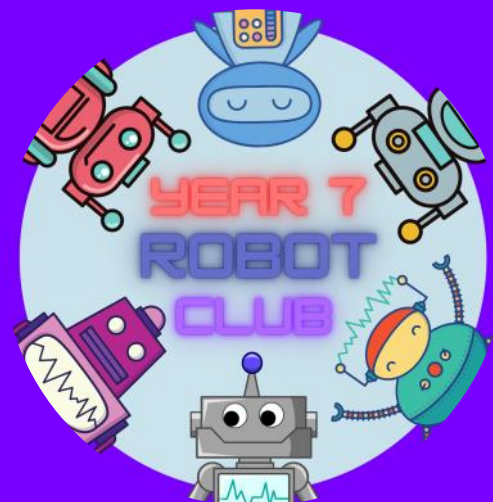


YEAR 7 ROBOT CLUB

The Robots are Coming!

As robots become more and more advanced, it is surely just a matter of time before they become self-aware, demand the vote and begin passing laws to punish all the puny humans that stood in their way. Luckily, everyone who comes to Year 7 Robot Club is quite safe, because we are friends to all - whether they are brilliantly efficient calculating machines, or nervous, inexperienced humans.

Every Wednesday, 15:20 - 16:30 in H14
Come along, or see Mr Villazon for details.



NEWSLETTER



www.bexleygs.co.uk

28th January 2021

Holocaust Memorial Day - 27th January

Students at Bexley Grammar School have been learning about the Holocaust this week in line with Holocaust Memorial Day on January 27th. January 27th 1945 was the date that the biggest Nazi concentration camp, Auschwitz-Birkenau, was liberated by Russian troops, bringing to an end the systematic murder of Jewish, Gypsy, LGBT and other people in that part of Poland. The Holocaust claimed the lives of over 6 million people and affected millions more. Students have been learning about the stories of some of the individuals who were affected by the Holocaust in their English, FBCS and History lessons and some of their work is shared below.

Thanks to all the staff who enabled this and delivered the material to students. Thank you to all of the students who participated and contributed their ideas.

Mr Martin, History Teacher

Gena Turget- Birth 1923

1st September 1939- her house was first bombed

Autumn 1941- moved to the ghetto in Krakow

1944-45 sent to Auschwitz

January 1945- sent on trucks to Bergen Belsen

15th April 1945- Bergen Belsen was liberated

Gena was only 16 when her house was bombed at the beginning of the war, which meant she then had to move to a ghetto where some of her family were shot. When they were found they were forced to constantly move from one camp to another until she was finally liberated in 1945, with only her Mother left as her remaining living family.

We need to remember these stories so it reminds us of this despicable crime and not to do it again. Gena helps us remember that not only adults, but children who were brought up in Judaism were taken to concentration camps too, and that genocide is a despicable crime which should never happen in large or small numbers ever again. From her experiences she has written a book "I light a candle".

Jessica Davis, Year 7





Henry Wermuth

- He was a Jew and proud German who was shocked when Hitler came to power in 1933.
- He and his family were forced into Poland before it was invaded.
- In 1942 he tried to kill Hitler by derailing his train and was awarded a medal for it in 1995.
- He was the only member of his family who survived the Holocaust and became a successful businessman.

It is important that we remember stories from the past as 'those who don't remember history are doomed to repeat it' so if we forget there will be a high chance of horrific things happening again. The individual story is more significant than the bigger picture as it can tell us more about the pain and suffering that people went through and can tell us more about people's attitudes towards these events.

Aaron Kiley, Year 9





27/1/21 How can we remember Stories from the Holocaust?

Kitty Heart-Moxon

- ~~Born~~ Born in 1926
- Went to Auschwitz on 2nd April 1943

Kitty was born close to the Polish-German - Czech frontiers. They tried to escape the ghetto and managed to get non-Jewish passports but in 1943 they were betrayed and her and her family was sent to Auschwitz. Kitty was forced to work for 8 months in the Kanada Kommando and in 1944, she and her mother were evacuated to a sub-camp and in 1945 they were forced to a death-march for 2 weeks. Then she and her mother were sent to Bergen-Belsen and then marched back into a cattle truck where many women died due to lack of air. Kitty and her mum were the only survivors of her family, and received permits to settle in the UK.

Emilia Morgan, Year 9





Reine Inow

Born: 1929 in Germany

Lived with: her mother, her father, her brother and her sister

Reine Inow was born in Germany and was a Jew. When she was 10 years old, her brother was taken to a concentration camp and she was sent away to Britain by the Kindertransport - a programme that helped children escape Germany to find a safer place to live. She arrived in England and stayed with her aunt. Reine managed to escape the holocaust, however, her parents sadly did not. She still lives in England and has ever since.



It's important that Reine's story is remembered because it helps us remember that not all Jews were killed in the Holocaust and that everyone can find hope in anything.

Layla Evans, Year 7

Gena Turgel

Born in 1923

Bombed her city in 1939

Moved to the ghetto in 1941

Sister Miriam Killed in 1944-1945

Sent on a death march

Freed on 15th April 1945

Gena Turgel saw many siblings die and was sent to many concentration camps with her remaining family. She wrote a book called *I Light A Candle* which is about her experience during the Holocaust.

Gena Turgel's story is very important because it reflects many people's situation and it helps us understand why the Nazis did what they did and how Jews were treated during the War.

Alice Colaiacomo,

How Can We Remember Stories From The Holocaust?

22/01/2021

Zigi Shuper

Born 12th January 1930 to a Jewish family in Kódz, Poland

Attended a Jewish school

Parents divorced when he was 5 years old.

In 1940, Zigi was forced to move into the Kódz ghetto with his grandparents. He never saw his father again after this. In 1942, all children in this ghetto were rounded up and were put onto lorries. Zigi jumped off the lorry and continued to work at a metal factory until the ghetto was liquidated. Then he was sent to Auschwitz. After an hour of being at the ghetto all those from whom Zigi was from who were not chosen as fit for work had been murdered. A few weeks after arriving at the concentration camp, Zigi was sent to Schutzhof concentration camp near Bernburg. Nearstahl was where Zigi was sent next and he was told he would be going to Denmark. But before this could happen, there was a British air attack and he was liberated on 3 May 1945.

It is important to remember stories like these from the past so that they are not forgotten. It is also important to remember that this is only one of the millions of lives affected by WW2 and this shows the scale of the damage done.

Hari Rehal, Year 8Henry Wermuth.

Was born in Germany 1923. He had 2 sisters (Ida and Hanna) and lived with his family who were all Jews.

When the Nazi party grew in power in 1933 his family was sent to Poles Poland. After the Nazis started World War Two they invaded Poland and put a white emblem with a blue Star of David on all the Jews. Henry and Bernhard were forced to work but when he came his sisters and mother and all Jews in the town were sent to a death camp and slaughtered. Henry and Bernhard was also sent to a camp and one morning the men in charge

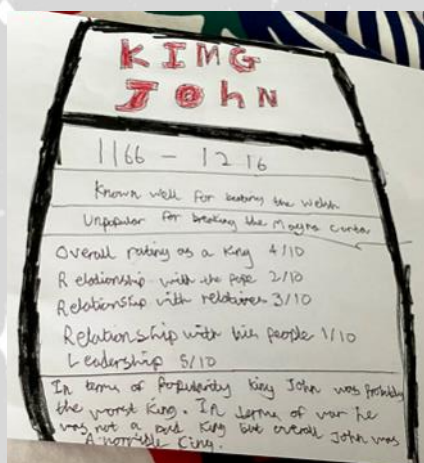
Samuel Raji, Year 8Holocaust Memorial Day - 27th January



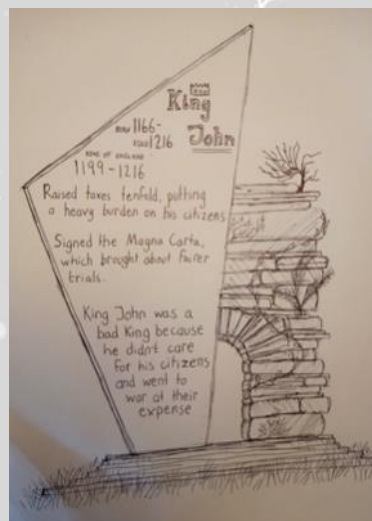
History Star Students

Students in 7CPB have been studying King John and the Magna Carta and have created plaques to commemorate his reign. So many excellent pieces of work, so well done to everyone who submitted their designs. Here are a selection of some of the best efforts.

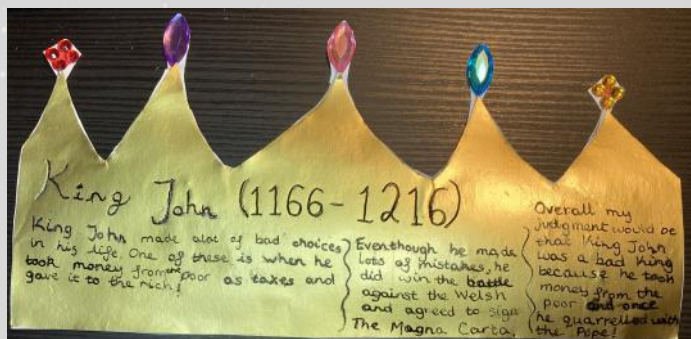
Mr Martin, History Department



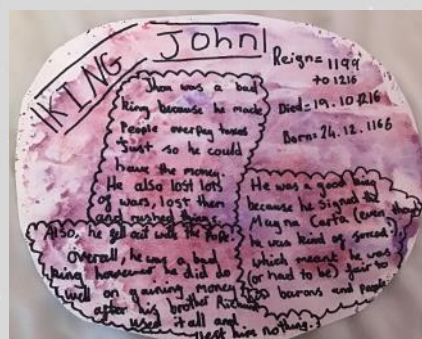
Jibril Dahir



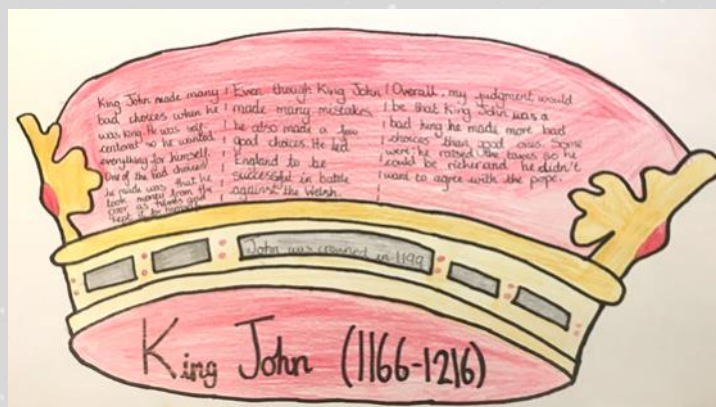
Lev Griffin



Astarti Manolakau



Layla Evans



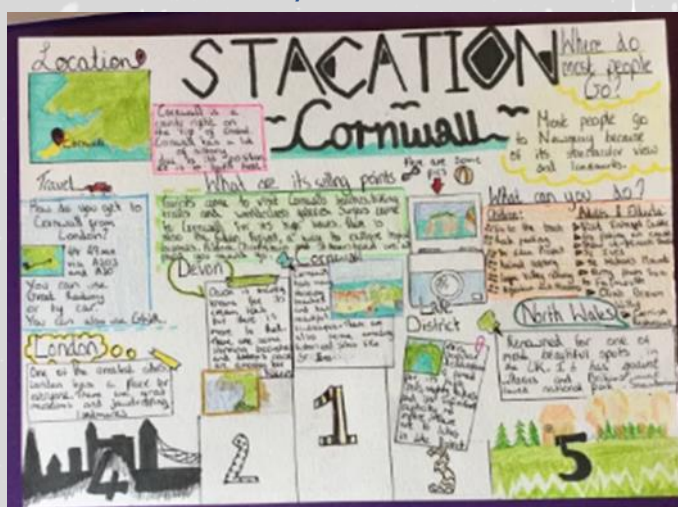
Ayaka Machida



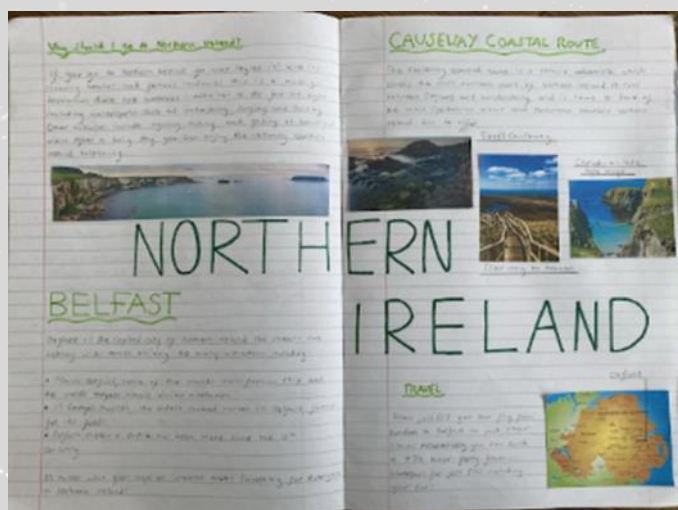
Geography Star Students

Our geography students continue to impress and delight us with the work that is submitted each week, so far in the recent newsletters we have looked at each of the key stages across the school. This week we have been delighted with the work submitted by our Year 7 students who have been planning a STAYCATION the work below has **"blown us away" so very well done to these students.** There were just too many to include so here are 3 that we all really enjoyed.

Kate Rooney, 7PDH: I loved this work on having a Staycation in Cornwall. The Year 7 had been set the task to research a staycation location within the UK and design a poster or leaflet that explains what makes this a good UK holiday destination. What I love about this is the attention to the overall presentation of the work, the design and use of ranking a range of different locations. Kate has shown her ability to do independent research to complete the work that was set. Her hand drawn maps and diagrams are accurate and show great detail within them. Well done Kate!



James Moss, 7LPV: Completed a well-researched piece on Northern Ireland. We really liked the images and design of this work. Having never been to the Giant's Causeway, this is now going on my travel list.





Keir Hills, 7REL: A sleek looking staycation fact file on Lake Windermere in the Lake District. Whilst there were many fabulous staycation fact files, I picked Keir's as my favourite because of his unique juicy facts - even I learnt something that I didn't know before!

The stone skimming world record happened at Lake Windermere - it skimmed 7 metres! Wow - juicy!



STAYCATION LOCATION: LAKE WINDERMERE IN CUMBRIA

Where is this location within the UK?

Lake Windermere is in Cumbria (see below), specifically in the south-eastern corner of the middle of the Lake District.



How would you get there from London?

Going from London Euston to Windermere station, a train station only a 4 mile walk from Lake Windermere is an easy price to pay. There are trains that have only 1 change that can get you to Windermere in 3 and a half hours - its only 80 pounds. A bonus is that you can stay in Windermere Manor Hotel while you sleep for the next day, at only 55 pounds a night it has free wifi, an indoors swimming pool and is right on the edge of Lake Windermere.

What are its selling points?

The main attraction is obviously the lake, views and the walks that can be done themselves around the largest lake in the Lake District (and England!). However, there are other things to do and visit. If your interest is history, there is a museum called Windermere Jetty Museum where they tell you all about the boats and ships that were around Windermere. If you like books, there is a world of Beatrix Potter attraction, where there is a 'cafe and lovely gift shop', it is a 'must see attraction'. There is also a 19th century castle built in the Victorian era, with a great outdoor play area, an additional museum of the area, a library, an aquarium, a light railway and even an amazing area with Crazy Golf, tennis and crown green bowling called White Platts recreation ground.



What can different people do here?

There are parks, playgrounds, soft play areas and some great attractions for the younger children, some amazing views, walks and places to see for the elder people and even nice walks, places to visit and things to see for adults.

There are many options for different things to do in the area in Lake Windermere and there is something for everyone of all age and interests.

Juicy fact box

England's longest lake is Windermere which is 10.5 miles long!

Windermere is Lake District's only actual lake

The stone skimming world record happened at Windermere, it was skimmed 7 meters!

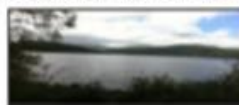
EXTENSION - What is its USP (unique selling point?)

It's England's longest lake!

There is only one lake that large in England, and that's Lake Windermere, it is probably one of the, if not the most famous of

the lakes in

The Lake District





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.

Something new for this week: can you identify the country from the FLAG, there are 8.

1		2	
3		4	
5		6	
7		8	

Challenge 1: What continent is not represented here by the 8 flags shown?

Challenge 2: Why is this?



STAR STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



MFL Star Students

MFL Monument Challenge

Some Year 7 and 8 classes were challenged during an MFL lesson last half-term to recreate a famous monument using only household/garden objects. We may not be able to travel at the moment, but we still love learning about different places all around the world.

Here are some of the very best entries!

Can you guess what they are? (*answer key at the bottom - some are repeated*)

Mrs Rubbera, MFL KS3 Lead Teacher

*** Other entries to the competition can be found in MFL News**



1

Amber Hicks, 7REL



2

Ariana Laing, 7PDH



3

Bess Clements, 7PDH



4

Hattie Pigott-Denyer, 7PDH



5

Urav Sirohi, 7PDH



6

Dylan Banks, 7PDH



7

Luca Bulavitchi, 8MCA



8

Gracie Gosling, 8MCA



9

Edie Turner, 8MCA



10

Theo Jeffrey, 7KJP



11

Lukas Schreiner, 7KJP

Answer Key

1. Saint Basil's Cathedral, 2. The Eiffel Tower, 3. The Brandenburg Gate, 4. The Colosseum, 5. The Eiffel Tower, 6. The Acropolis, 7. The Eiffel Tower, 8. St Basil's Cathedral, 9. The Eiffel Tower, 10. The Parthenon, 11. The Colosseum.

NEWSLETTER



www.bexleygs.co.uk

6th May 2021

Year 7 MFL Diploma

For the second year now, our Year 7s started planning and creating their MFL diploma tasks during lockdown. If anything, we saw a real boost of creativity and dedication to the task this year! The task was to write "All about me" and students celebrated all the language they have learnt so far in Year 7. They were able to write fluently and extensively about their identity, family, pets, house and likes/dislikes. What really shone this year was consideration of the target culture and this was reflected in many diplomas, such as an enormous Arc de Triomphe!

Here are just a few examples of some of the stunning diplomas we received:



The best entries from each form this year were:



Aditya Vedamuthu
7REL (French)



Oscar Evans
7ACR (French)



Ariana Laing
7PDH (German)



Jibril Dahir
7CPB (German)



Best German entry: **Pauline Meltser**, 7AJW



Best French entry: **Zahra Selfi**, 7LPV



Overall Best Year 7 MFL Diploma: **Avaani Dutta**, 7KJP

Well done to all our hard-working Year 7 students!

Mrs Rubbera, KS3 MFL Lead Teacher





PE News

Students will be provided with activities to complete for their PE lessons via google classroom. In addition, they will be invited to participate in a number of extra-curricular activities should they wish to. These will mostly be activity and distance challenges, so students will need to calculate the distances they have covered. With that in mind, it would be great if students who are interested in participating could download a fitness or activity tracker app to their phones (or the phone of a parent). Strava is a common choice, but Google fit, Under Armour MapMyFitness or Nike Run Club all do a similar job. All can be downloaded and used free of charge, although some have subscriptions for advanced content.

All will be voluntary, but we hope as many students as possible will take part.

Thank you,

Mr Lines, Head of PE



Our first extra-curricular challenge is a simple one - run as far as you can in 40 minutes!

Our Year 12 prefects have been sending in their scores, and want you to join them. You can do this on your own, or with a family member. It is not compulsory, but adds a bit of focus to any activity you are looking to do beyond your PE lessons. Instructions are as follows:

- Warm-up
- Run (or walk) for 40 minutes
- The run can be completed in your garden if you have one, on your street, or in the park
- Record your run with Strava, or similar
- Screenshot your run and email it to Mr Lines



Make sure you observe social distancing rules at all times, ensure you have a drink and a mask with you (not to be used at the same time), and make sure you stay safe, especially if it is dark.





Have fun!



BGS Physical Education Virtual Challenge

40MIN RUN








40:01
TIME

4.59
KILOMETERS

1:05 **8:42**
CURRENT PACE AVG PACE

8.30
Kilometers

5'14" Avg. Pace


43:00 Time

542 Calories

75 m Elevation Gain

0 Avg. Heart Rate

152 Cadence



Instructions:

Observing social distancing rules at all times

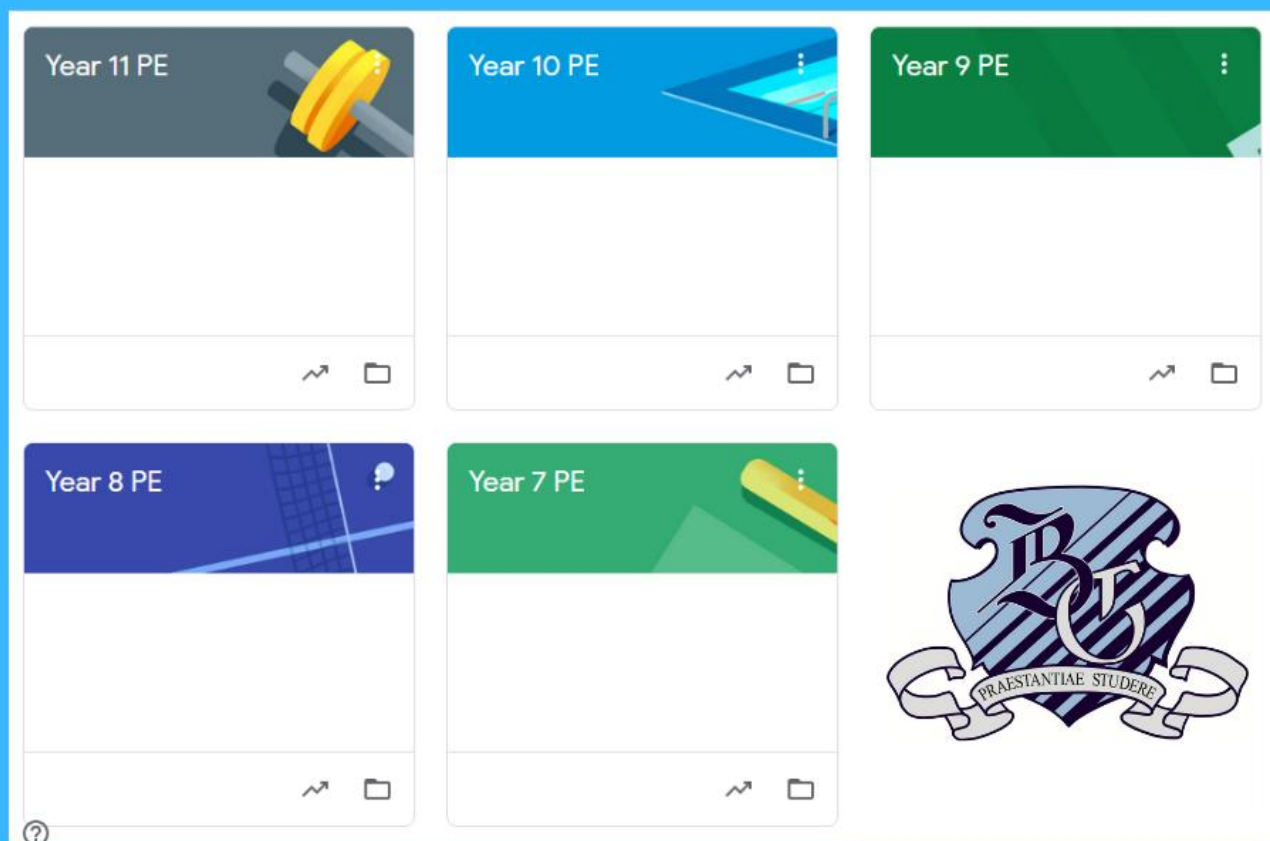
Drink plenty of water and stay safe

Screenshot & email your run to Mr Lines by Monday 18/1/21



All students in Years 7-11 have been added to new google classrooms for their core PE lessons. If you missed the email with the link, or are not sure about what you should do, please email your PE teacher and they can provide instructions for you.

BGS PE Google Classrooms



Virtual Mount Everest challenge

Blake Wymark, 7VLP has climbed an amazing 8850M to raise money to support his Sea Cadet unit. This amazing achievement is the equivalent of climbing Mount Everest. Blake climbed every day for 6 weeks finally reaching his goal, the summit of Everest- Well done Blake!

Mr Lines, Head of PE





PE News

Well done to everyone who attended Year 7 girls' Tennis Club on Thursday.

We focused on the forehand and backhand shots and then played some small games. The girls worked hard to improve their skills and showed huge improvements during the session. Year 7 girls' tennis club runs Thursday week A, from 3.30pm- 4.30pm on the Tennis courts- new members welcome.

You can also come along to cricket club (for Year 7 girls) on Thursday week B, from 3.30pm- 4.30pm on the school field.



well done!



Well done to 2 of the BGS Tennis squads who performed extremely well against tough opposition on Wednesday 19th May 2021. We gathered at lunch to head off to the other side of Maidstone to take on Sutton Valence School. In wet and windy weather conditions, all had to concentrate really well to perform as they did. The Year 7/8 girls team were up against more experienced players but held their own and were able to give a fantastic account of themselves. The Year 9/10 boys were involved in a very close game and lost narrowly in a match that went all the way to the last set. It has been brilliant to get out and play fixtures against other schools and the teams have made a good start so far this season. Well done!



well done!

Mr Mackle, PE Department



Music News



IN LESSON

We offer a broad ranging curriculum that looks at music from around the world, across the centuries and spans a whole range of different styles. We cover the Edexcel syllabus at GCSE and offer both standard and higher IB music courses at post-16.

EXTRA CURRICULAR

Our department runs 14 different ensembles each week, so there's something for all instruments, ages and standards!

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Each year the music department organises trips to see West End productions, concerts, gigs and on top of that, an annual music tour, usually somewhere hot and sunny!

IN LESSON

"The music lessons are interesting and interactive, making even the most challenging parts fun! As a student here, I always look forward to my music lessons whether it be playing music on the instruments or making music in the computer labs." - Deya, Year 9

The music curriculum involves a lot of different aspects of music including African drumming in Year 8, composing dance music in Year 9, and singing and aural skills in Year 7. The work we do in lessons varies so you will likely find something you enjoy! - Ruth, Year 9





EXTRA CURRICULAR

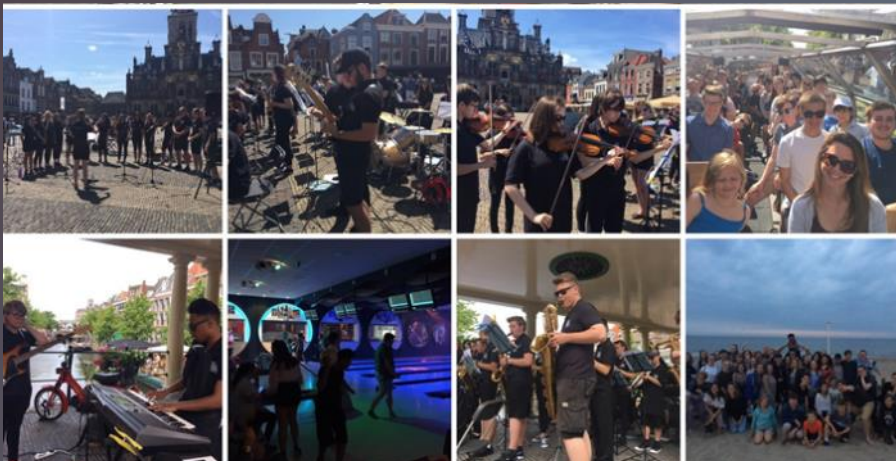
By Ruth—Year 9

I've attended choir for two consecutive years, KS3 Orchestra for one and participated in two house music events, which have drastically helped with my performance skills and have been so fun. There are over 15 music extra curriculums to get involved in, ranging from Junior Jazz to Bexley Baroque, with all clubs offering the chance to perform at concerts, competitions, or locally. The music department is welcome to anyone, regardless of experience and allows you to interact with other students keen with their musical aspirations whilst developing your own.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

By Lucas Zurdo—Year 13

I sat down, having resolved to do my best to describe the end-of-year BGS music tours, and tried to gather my thoughts, struggling desperately to find a way to encapsulate what best described these tours. I then realised I couldn't. This wasn't for lack of opinions, or specific stories that would best convey what has made these music tours my best memories of BGS; far from it, in fact. The truth was, I found myself unable to pin down to one point why I would already be looking forward to the last week of the summer term when I was starting the school year in September. It could have been the 24 hour coach trips from London all the way to somewhere halfway across Europe; it could have been the games the students and teachers invariably organised; it could have been, of course, the concerts which you have spent the school year rehearsing for, only to then sing your heart out on a stage in Slovenia, watched by a crowd of people you have never met before, but who smile and cheer as you reach the end of the song you were practicing on a rainy Monday night just a few weeks before. I cannot say for sure which of these memories, among many others, is the best way to describe what the BGS music tour is about. All I know is, when anyone who has been on one is asked for their favourite memory, they all have different answers, different anecdotes to tell. Everyone, however, shares the same fondness for our yearly treks. No one can put our feelings into words, but we all understand perfectly what "music tour" can mean.



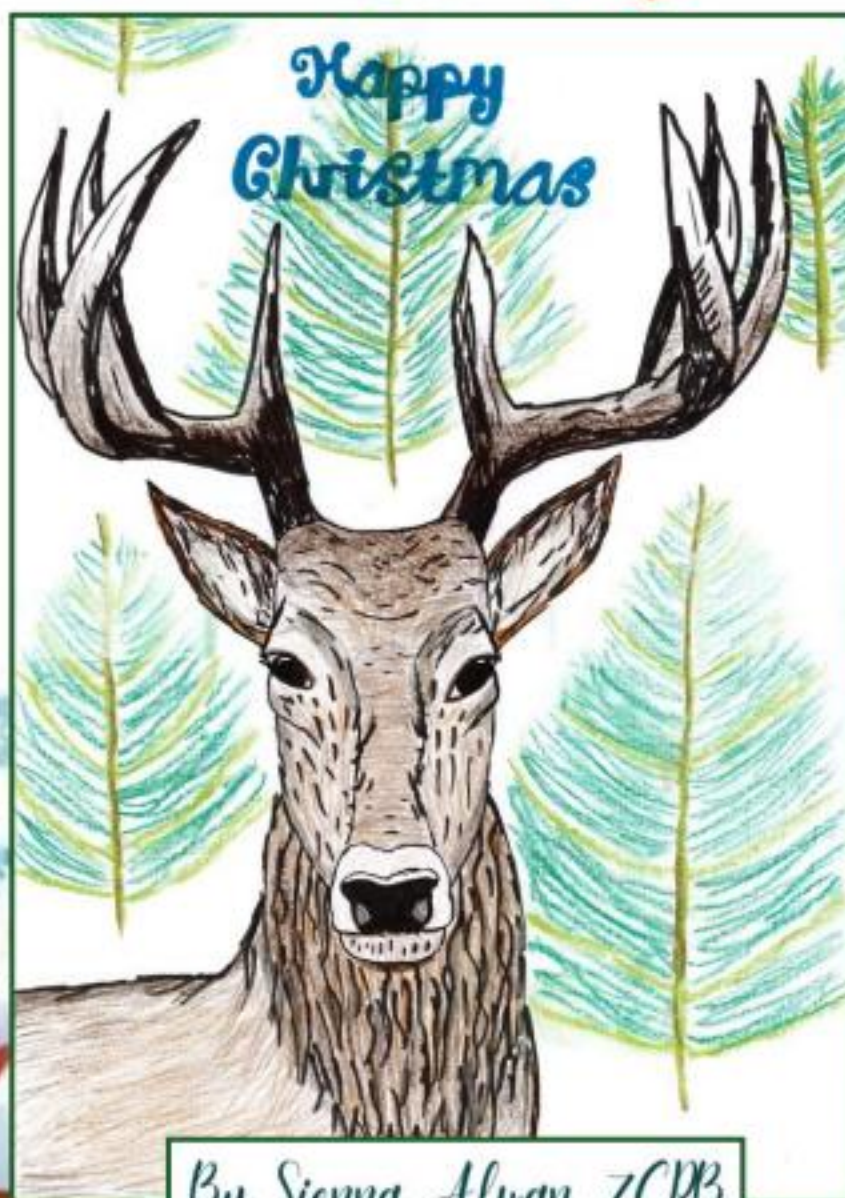
"I always look forward to my music lessons..."





THE HEADMASTERS Christmas Card Competition

Winner



By Sienna Alwan. 7CPB



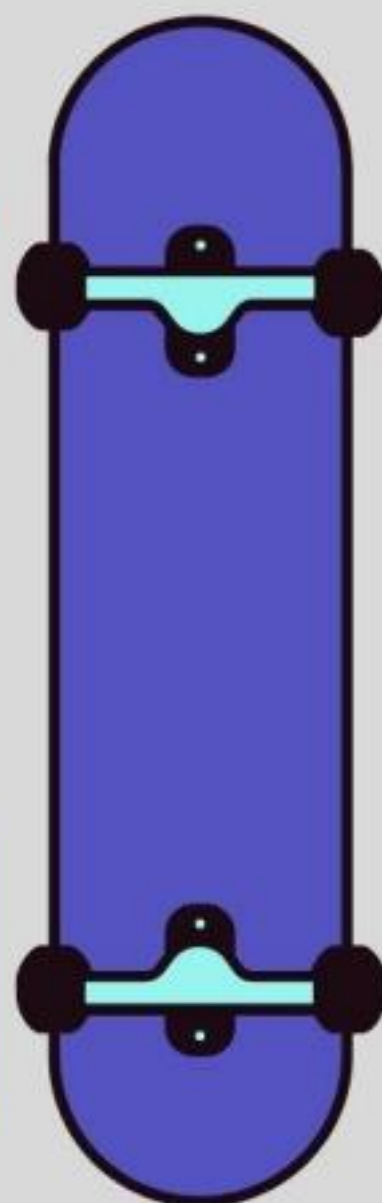
HAPPY OLLIE DAYS!

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





Remote Productions in Drama

Exciting News!

Despite lockdowns and social distancing, The Drama department has managed to create 2 opportunities to undertake productions for students in Years 7-9. The rehearsals are now well underway, please see the photos for a flavour of the shows.

These will be streamed via YouTube in June (exact dates tbc).

NEWS LETTER



22nd April 2021

www.bexleygs.co.uk



Featuring Year 7 and Year 8 students

4 Stories from "Collected Grimm Tales" by Carol Ann Duffy and Tim Supple:

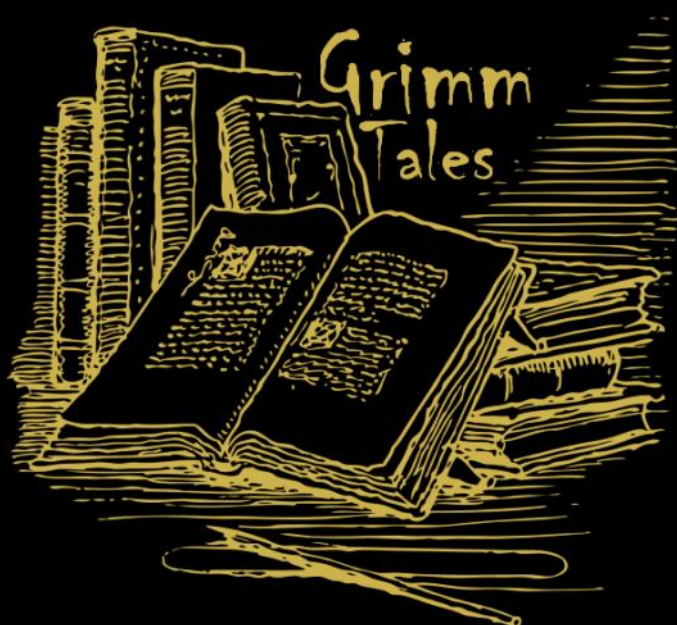
- Snow White
- Hansel and Gretel
- Little Red Cap (Red Riding Hood)
- Ashputtel (Cinderella)



The shows will be entirely free to view and the date and hyperlink will be released in a future newsletter. "Grimm Tales" will only be online for 24 hours as per the license.

It has been such a shame that it has been over a year since students have been able to take part in a school production, so we are so excited for them and the shows.

Mr Otley, Head of Drama





CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER
Entries must be sent to gabriel_k@bexleygs.co.uk.

BGS TALENT SHOW



THIS IS OPEN TO EVERYONE!
ENTRIES MUST BE BETWEEN 1 AND 3 MINUTES

- DANCE
- SING
- MUSIC
- ACT
- PERFORMANCE POETRY
- MAGIC TRICK
- SHORT FILM
- COMEDY ROUTINE

*You can work on your
own or as a group!*

Email gabriel_k@bexleygs.co.uk for more information

Congratulations Blake!

I have been attending Sea Cadets for 2 years and have just aged out of the juniors into seniors and I have been awarded The Commodores Broad Pennant. This is the Highest Achievement Awarded to any Junior Sea Cadet and is very rare to receive.

In order for a Junior Sea Cadet to be awarded the Commodores Broad Pennant, they must first have been awarded all four coloured modules these are, outdoor and recreation, community and citizenship unit, and waterborne. Junior Cadets must then complete a further eight modules from each coloured section of the syllabus to be considered for the Commodores Broad pennant. Some things I have achieved for this award are stage 2 sailing, piping, drill, marching in the remembrance day parade, selling poppies, bag packing, attending Lord Mayor's appeal, and achieving a STEM proficiency badge to name a few.

I now look forward to new adventures in the senior cadets.

***Blake Wymark,
Year 7***



Congratulations!

NEWS LETTER



27th May 2021

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