

NEWSLETTER



14th October 2021
www.bexleygs.co.uk

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

While black history is celebrated year round, Black History Month is marked annually. Black History is British History and we are committed to recognising this in our curriculum. It recognises and values the inspirational individuals and events that have shaped the black generation. During Black History Month, we remember and celebrate the important people from the past and also those who contribute to and help our society today.

While the UK celebrates Black History Month in October, across the pond where it originated commemorations take place throughout February. After visiting America in the 1970s, Ghanaian-born Akyaaba Addai Sebo, a special projects officer in the Greater London Council, founded the UK's version of Black History Month in 1987. Traditionally, October is when African chiefs and leaders would gather to settle their differences, so Akyaaba chose this month to reconnect with African roots.

The month of October is Black History Month in the UK, and teachers at Bexley Grammar School have planned a series of lessons and activities to take place in October designed to explore this area of the curriculum. A special thank you to Miss Fuwa, Miss Contini, Mrs Moore, Heads of Departments and the Afro-Caribbean Society for all of their hard work.

Topics covered and activities include:

- Introduction to Black History Month and discussions including; Why is Black History Month important? What would you like to know about Black British History? What changes would you like to see to the curriculum?
- Exploring the history of Black migrants in England during the Tudor times (Year 7)
- The origins of Notting Hill Carnival and African Civilisation (Year 8)
- The significance of Stormzy headlining Glastonbury Festival in 2019 (Year 9)
- Exploring the idea of appropriation and appreciation (Year 10)
- Exploring the legacy of Stephen Lawence (Year 11)
- The Bristol Bus Boycott (Sixth Form)

Our wonderful school librarian, Ms Carey has again provided a fabulous display this month celebrating Black History Month in the school Library.



Please pop over to the school library throughout October to check out the Black History Month display put together by Miss Carey

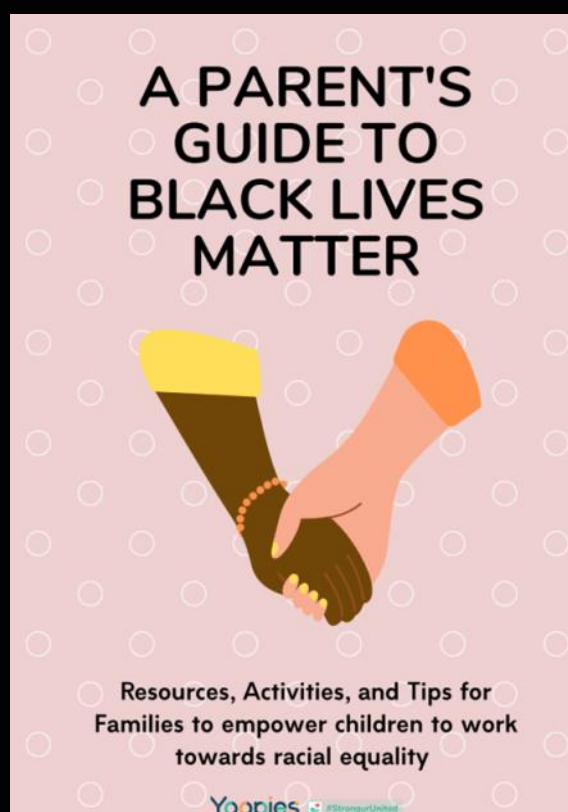


Our Afro-Caribbean Society is putting on a series of Black History Month Movie nights throughout October. Please see the advert below for more details.

Following on from the recent Black Lives Matter newsletter, below is a link to a useful document which has resources, activities and tips to support families.

[Parents Guide to Black Lives Matter. pdf](#)

Mrs Moore





BLACK HISTORY MONTH MOVIE CLUB

Afro-Caribbean Society will be screening movies each week in K10 from 3:20 pm.



Tuesday 5th October
The Hate U Give



Tuesday 19th October
Let it Shine



Tuesday 12th October
Black Panther

**BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH**



PE News

It was great to see our brilliant Year 10 rugby team have their first full game for since Year 8 this week. They played superb rugby in a narrow defeat 29-24 against a strong Colfe's team in the national schools cup. Tries from Henry (2), Ethan and Michael contributed to our score. It should be noted that they also represent everything positive about students at Bexley Grammar School. I was very proud to accompany them.

Mr Lines, Head of PE



Round up of Girls' PE

What a result as the U16 girls won 5-0! Summer, Freya (2), Daisy and Neve... they played really well, and had a great attitude! On to the next round...

Mrs Mallin

An amazing 5-0 win from the U16s Girls' Football against Bullers Wood on Thursday. What an achievement! Awesome goals from Summer, Neve, Freya and Daisy means they have secured their place in the next round. They were a credit to the school with the enthusiasm and conduct on the pitch. Come on girls!

Following in their footsteps at the U14 Girls training session were Maddison Lopez and Macie Richardson who impressed Miss Smith with their talented footwork skills on the football pitch! Watch this space for the next game...

Mrs Kemp



U16 Girls Football

An exceptional performance from the U16 Girls Football team on Tuesday 12th October. A whopping 10-2 win against Bonus Pastor takes them comfortably to the next stages of the Kent cup. They showed outstanding talent with goals from Neve (2), Gracie (1), Freya Bucksey (2), Freya Bibby (2), Lily (2) and Emily (1).

We had a debut performance from Isabella who stepped up in goal alongside Harleen, as our GK, Hannah, was unfortunately injured. Fingers crossed she is able to play soon! Players of the match awarded to Neve Morgan and Freya Bucksey for their superb control, accurate and dangerous crossing and overall tenacity on the pitch! The 10 and 11s watching from the sidelines were in awe! Good luck in the next round...

Mrs Kemp & Mrs Howard





Year 7 Football

We had our first match of the season last week and the boys had a tough game against local rivals Welling. It was a very good game that was fairly end to end action. Lots of people were asked to play in a position that wasn't necessarily their first choice but stuck to the game plan and slowly took control of the game. Eventually, we broke the deadlock from a corner provided by Jesse and a fabulous header by Austin that no goalkeeper would save. Welling rallied back but we held on for a tight win 1-0. Man of the match for some great defending went to Alex.

Looking forward to the next game.

Mr Skinner

What an entertaining start to the Sixth Form Football season it has been. We had over 35 pupils turn up for our first trial game with additional players also showing an interest to play this season. It has made selecting the match squads extremely difficult with so many great options! Already 23 different players have represented the school in just 3 competitive games. With 2 highly contested trial matches and 3 competitive fixtures already completed it has been a very busy start to the season. The squad this year is well balanced between Year 12 and Year 13 pupils who have all shown a superb attitude and fantastic character to obtain results against some very strong sides. We have played Beths Grammar School (2-2), Christ the King College (2-2) and Gravesend Grammar School (3-3) to date in the U19 North Kent Premier Division. The most recent game saw a powerful second half performance that meant we came from 3-1 down at one point to draw 3-3 with a penalty in the final minute of the game. The aim will be to build on these results by converting our current trend of drawing games with some victories. Congratulations to all those who have been involved so far. It is a great group of pupils and I have been hugely impressed with how they have supported one another and are forming a really strong positive mentality as a squad. Keep up the good work!

Mr Mackle

The Year 11s put in a classy performance in the second round in the French Cup against Queen Elizabeth Grammar (Faversham) on Thursday evening. A dominant performance in the first half put us up 4-0 in the first half and the half time didn't slow us down. We went out and put another 4 goals in the Queen Elizabeth's net, with goals from Arinze, Obi, Mal and a fantastic corner goal straight from the training ground from Mason. The next game for the Year 11s will be on the 20th October in the Invicta Cup first round against St Paul's at home. Kick off at 16:00.

Oli Knight, Year 11





Year 8 Boys' Football

On Tuesday the Year 8 boys played their first match in the Kent Cup vs Bullers Wood Boys. In wet and windy conditions the boys dominated and thanks to goals from Tom Mercer in his Man of the Match performance, BGS had a 2-0 lead at half time. In the second half Bullers Wood used the wind to their advantage, as we did in the first half and were quickly back on level terms. The team stayed solid through the remainder of the half with great defensive displays shown by all.



Extra time followed, but both teams could not be split. On to the dreaded penalties. All 5 penalty takers of BGS stayed calm and slotted their penalty home. A single penalty miss from our opponents from a world class save from Phillip King in goal meant we WON 5-4 and are through to the next round.

A special mention to our captain for the day Finley Uttridge for his excellent communication and support of his team mates throughout the game.



A big well done boys and on to the next round.

Mr Powell

A huge congratulations to our super Year 8 netball team, who won 25-0 against Trinity on Tuesday. The girls played some fantastic netball, showing great patience and skill when bringing the ball through court. An epic team performance. A special mention to Ariana for being selected as opposition's player of the match for her amazing shooting and team work around the semi-circle.



Miss Leffen

So the hailstorm just as we started our triangle fixture didn't put off the Year 10 girls (plus a few Year 9s) against Townley and Chis and Sid. Credit must be given to the three netball teams as they played in the wet and windy conditions; I love your commitment to the games and enthusiasm! For the first set of games against Chis and Sid we had a win, draw and a loss with all 21 girls getting players of the match! We faced Townley in the latter part of the evening where we managed to match the scores. Well done to the girls for being voted as players of the match against the opposition. Lovely to see you all enjoying the game!



Mrs Kemp



What a day for the Year 9 rugby team! In their first game for 2 years, due to pandemic problems, they romped to a 50-15 win over Wilmington GS. Tries from Andy (4), Euan (2), Jesse (2) and Tega and Zac were fantastic, but the whole team played brilliantly - many of them for the first time.

Mr Lines

Congratulations!



Jack Petchey Award

On Friday the 24th September, I attended an awards evening at the Garrison Church in Woolwich along with the rest of my cadets from Royal Air Force Air Cadets (RAFAC) 56 Squadron. I wasn't expecting to win an award until my last name was called out for the Jack Petchey Award. The Jack Petchey Award is possibly the highest achievement I could ever receive, and probably the highest award I will ever receive. The Award is given to hard workers and outstanding achievers, although why, I, out of all cadets in my Squadron, received it along with a fellow cadet I will never know. Each nominated winner of this award gets £250 to spend on their respective Squadron, so in total, my fellow cadet and I earned £500 to spend on the squadron and new facilities, which will give us new and exciting opportunities. In addition, at New Year, I will be receiving a medal to commemorate the event. It is an honour to achieve this award, as Sir Jack Petchey himself will be giving them to all winners in early January. Depending on COVID circumstances, there might be an online event broadcast on YouTube. Along with the medal, I will be receiving a pin badge, a letter from Sir Jack Petchey and a copy of one of Sir Jack Petchey's books. I hope that others from my form will also win this award and that Prothero will be proud of its students.

Jan Sawczuk, Year 9



Congratulations!





Safeguarding and e-Safety Notice

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Using Public Transport

Please note that a parent has reported some suspicious behaviour on the train from Kibrooke to Welling by a member of the public. British Transport Police have been informed but if your child uses the trains to get to school please ensure they feel comfortable and safe. If there are any concerns please log them with BTP and also keep us informed.



Netflix 'Squid Game'

We've been contacted by some parents regarding the Netflix show 'Squid Game', which features scenes of violence and bad language. The age rating for this is 15 though it seems to be very popular with younger children so please be aware. For more information see the article below:

[Squid Game age rating | What age is Netflix series appropriate for? - Radio Times](#)

H.J. Gilmore
Deputy Head and Designated Safeguarding Lead



On Power Day 1 this week, we were fortunate enough to have 'The Fix-Up Team' come along to BGS and Action Jackson and his presenters led sessions all day long to our Year 11 students (who we felt needed a little boost having being hit over the last year or so with the COVID pandemic).

I organized a jam-packed day focusing on topics such as: 'Making Goals', 'Resilience', 'Time Management', 'Preparing for Exams' and 'Memory' & 'Friendship'. The aim was to motivate students to live their dreams and make them happen! By the end of the day, students felt motivated and ready to take on challenges, whilst also gaining confidence and tools for a successful academic journey. The leaders were dynamic and full of energy, meaning the students responded really well to this and were a credit to our school. 'The Fix-Up Team' also provided virtual sessions for staff and parents to allow them to also be inspired to live 'their' dreams and 'Make it happen!' So feel free to watch the virtual session on the link provided and take from it what you will. Once you get past the initial singing you may be entertained by Action Jackson's message and guidance.

Mrs J S Mitten
PSHCE coordinator and Power Day Lead





Attending school every day really matters. Did you know...

If your attendance during the school year ...	You would have lost approximately ...	Or you would have missed approximately...
Was 95%	9 days from school	50 lessons
Was 90%	19 days from school	100 lessons
Was 85%	29 days from school	150 lessons
Was 80%	38 days from school	200 lessons
Was 75%	48 days from school	250 lessons

Getting to school on time really matters. Did you know...

If in a school year, you are late every day by...	You would have lost approximately...	Or you would have missed approximately...
5 minutes	3.5 days from school	20 lessons
10 minutes	7 days from school	41 lessons
15 minutes	10 days from school	55 lessons
20 minutes	14.5 days from school	82 lessons
30 minutes	22 days from school	123 lessons





Year 11 Update

I just wanted to provide a brief overview of the upcoming events to be aware of in Year 11.

The year group will be sitting their next round of mock exams after the October half term. The exam timetable will be released in due course and examinations will start on Tuesday 2nd November.

I have had a number of queries regarding Sixth Form choices and the process of choosing subjects. Covid permitting, the year group will have an information evening event at which parents and their child will receive information regarding the IB diploma and have the opportunity to speak to departments about their subjects. This, in conjunction with discussions with your child's teachers at Year 11 Parents' Evening on the 7th December (via Schoolcloud), will provide enough information for pupils to make decisions regarding their subject choices. This is further supported by work in PSHCE and subject taster sessions on a POWER day. Finally, Sixth Form subject choices are made after the Christmas holidays in the spring term.

A quick reminder that we would encourage pupils to book work experience placements for the summer term after they have completed their GCSE public exams.

Mrs Boulden
Director of Studies, Year 11

Mayor's Christmas Card competition

The 3 winners will win a £20 amazon voucher

How to enter:

Please send your design, on an A4 piece of paper (one side) to
The Mayor's Office, Civic Offices, 2 Watling Street, Bexleyheath, Kent DA6 7AT

Please tell us your name, age and what school you go to along with a contact email, address and phone number.

Or send a scanned copy to mayors.office@bexley.gov.uk

The designs will be chosen on Friday 5 November 2021

Cllr James Hunt

Mayor of the London Borough of Bexley



Pre-loved Uniform Sale- Update

During the summer school the PA held a sale of pre-loved school uniform. Many of our parents donated outgrown uniform and we had lots of unnamed lost property. The sale was very successful and the PA raised almost £500!

Thank you to everyone who contributed.

**Mrs Beasley
Reception**

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 landfills. Every week we acquire many items of unwanted 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 BGGS 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...

The pre-loved uniform sale will take place between 2.30pm and 3.30pm during the first week of the holidays on the following days:

- Monday 26th July
- Tuesday 27th July
- Friday 30th July

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 £300. Salvation Army collection bags can be obtained from the reception.

Many thanks

EMAIL: RECEPTION@BEXLEYGS.CO.UK



Lost Property

5 weeks into our new school year and we already have lots of unnamed lost property, particularly coats and water bottles. Please ensure all belongings are named and contact us if your child has lost any items at school.

You can email us on reception@bexleygs.co.uk or click on the link [here](#).

Many thanks

**Mrs Beasley, Mrs Denyer & Mrs Burrell
Reception Team**





The BGS PA Lotto is a monthly draw to raise funds for the school. This was previously known as the Millennium Club.

How does it work?

Each month there is a prize draw with a first prize of £15 and a second prize of £10.

To enter the draw you need to purchase a share. Each numbered share costs £5 for the year and is entered into the following 12 monthly draws plus an additional Christmas bonus draw.

*You can join any time.

*You must be over 18 to enter.

*There is no limit on the number of £5 shares you can buy.

Visit

bgspa.co.uk/lotto

to order your shares!

News items you may have missed



Day	Subject	Location	Start & End Time
Monday	RS- some students will be invited to attend, others can join on a voluntary basis	M22	After school, until 4pm
	Maths- open to anyone who wishes to attend	G4	After school until 4.10pm
	Music- composition	MU2	After school until 4.10pm
Tuesday	English– skills sessions (invite only)	J11	Second half of lunch, week B
Wednesday	History– additional support will take place in lessons with 1 period a week set aside for revision/ support		
Thursday			
Friday	Food Prep & Nutrition	H rooms	Until 4.30pm



Safety Message for all students

Please note: entry to the school site for students is via gate number 4 and is clearly marked 'Students' Entrance'.

Students **must not** enter or exit the school site via the lower gate number 7 (closest to Danson Park) and clearly marked 'Staff Car Park' & 'No pedestrian access'.

Thank you



Forthcoming Events

October

Thursday 21st ~ Last full school day for all students before half term

Friday 22nd to Monday 1st November Half Term (School closed to students)

Tuesday 2nd ~ First school day following Half Term (All student return to school)