

# NEWSLETTER

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

3rd March 2022



## A note from the headteacher about the invasion of Ukraine

We are very fortunate to have a native Russian teacher on our staff. She kindly recorded a short talk on Monday which was circulated to tutors to show students during form time this week. In it, she explains the Russian invasion of Ukraine and how we can try to make sense of it. She spoke with clarity and objectivity and yet the message was personal and powerful. She spoke of "Putin" as opposed to "Russia", of the role of propaganda, of Putin's threats and the response of the West with sanctions. "It's perfectly normal to be sad, angry or anxious about the conflict" she said. "We are a community and we need to talk about these feelings openly, to make them more bearable. We also need to be compassionate and supportive of each other..."

Thank you to Mrs Zotova for her powerful support. The school community continues to support students as they grapple with the disturbing daily news updates.

Some students may wish to express their support for Ukraine by contributing to the Ukraine Appeal. The nearest drop-off point for donations to the school that we are aware of is in Sidcup - please see the poster below:

## UKRAINE APPEAL

### Items needed

Hygiene Products  
Women's Sanitary Items  
First Aid kits  
Bandages  
Dry and Wet Wipes  
Nappies  
Baby Food Jars  
Powder Baby Milk  
Pain or Cold Relief For Children  
Thermoses  
Paper Plates  
Flashlights

Donations for shipping costs:

Sort Code 09-01-29 Account 14966422 Ref: UKRAINE  
Account name: Lewisham Polish Centre

### Drop off



Labour Party Office,  
31 Sidcup Hill  
DA14 6HJ



Friday 4th March (10am to Noon)  
Sunday 6th March (10.30am to Noon)

Old Bexley & Sidcup  
 **Labour**



# Year 10s take on the 10X Challenge

This week saw the start of the 10X Challenge for Year 10 Business Studies students. Each team of around 5 students are pledged £10 for four weeks to get their business idea off the ground. The challenge allows students to put theory into practice, develop their entrepreneurial skills and give them some experience of what it is like to run a business. We look forward to seeing what the students will come up with and how they will develop over the next four weeks!

***Mrs Harris, Head of Economics and Business***

The 10X challenge seems like a great opportunity to develop our business skills and gain some real experience as entrepreneurs. I'm excited to try it and see how well our product sells.

***Max Johnson, Year 10***

In Business Studies we are taking part in Young Enterprise's '10X Challenge'. We have got ourselves into teams that are loaned £10 from our teachers to get the business started, along with that we have to create a team name and a logo too! So far my team has discussed ideas on whether to do a product or a service and items we can buy cheap in bulk under £10 and sell them or revamp to sell.

***Beth Abegunde-Williams, Year 10***





## Geography News

### Amazing Year 10 Geography Work!

I would like to celebrate some amazing revision work carried out with my Year 10 Geography classes recently. Students were preparing for an end of unit assessment on the 'Living World' topic which included work on ecosystems, tropical rainforest and hot deserts.

They successfully and creatively completed revision grids to prepare them for their end of unit assessment. Have a look at the range of work produced by these students. Student work includes - Lewis Abba, Andy Yu, Jasreen Ghag, Ese Obhio, Ella Curl and Sami Ismail. Keep up the excellent geography work!

**Miss Ashman, Geography Department**

Click [here](#) to view some more of the amazing Year 10 Geography work!

✓ *Awsome evidence of revision Taskeen!*

**ECOTOURISM:**  
Sustainable & profitable tourism  
Educates visitors, appreciate nature

**CONSERVATION & EDUCATION:**  
Prevents exploitation of forest  
Protects surrounding area

**WESTERN DESERT:**  
- West USA: Shored 5 States + Mexico  
- covers 200,000 square km  
- Colorado River is main water source  
↳ 30 million people depend on it  
- Pressure on water supply: population, climate change, + usage  
- Creates political conflict

**FOODWEB:**  
Sunlight → Proge  
Pondweed → Water → Dragon → Frogs  
Flies fly  
Toadpoles → Diving → Gold → Heron  
Beetles Fish  
The interrelationships between food chains

**DEBT REDUCTION:**  
'debt for nature scheme'  
HICs agree to write off debts of LIC  
E.g. Brazil used America owed money to fund Amazon

**NUTRIENT CYCLING:**  
Demonstrates the interdependence of plants, animals and soil clearly.

**VALUE OF TRE:**  
- home to lots of living organisms and biodiversity  
- medicines, tourism, building materials, water and carbon sink

**SELECTIVE LOGGING & REPLANTING:**  
- Cutting down trees and different heights  
- Replanting trees to replace

**TEPPING FOREST:**  
- located East of London  
- naturally high biodiversity  
- biomass store is high: tall trees  
- lose nutrients via leaching  
- Entire ecosystem is interdependent

**COLORADO RIVER AGREEMENT:**  
- water has to be distributed to all 7 states and has to have enough water flowing to Mexico

**DEFORESTATION:**  
- Cause: agriculture, logging, mining, energy development, road building, pop growth  
- impact: global warming, deforestation, soil erosion, etc.  
- responses: debt reduction, selective logging, replanting, government management.

**COMMERCIAL FARMING:**  
- large space of TRF for livestock rearing  
- cattle farmers often migrate and clear even more land because the quality of the pasture declines quickly

**DESERTIFICATION:**  
'process by which land becomes drier & degraded due to climate change or human activities'  
- Sahel; population/migration or rainfall patterns  
50,000 in Sahel are at risk

**CLIMATE CHANGE:**  
- pressure on water supply as it will decrease annual rainfall so less water in river (2014 Lake Mead)  
- can be caused by deforestation as more CO<sub>2</sub> in the air  
- disturbs wildlife and ecosystem's habitats

**POPULATION GROWTH:**  
- increases pressure on water supply  
- WD: too many people depending on it  
↳ expected to double by 2050  
- creates large amounts of water stress

**FARMING:**  
- an opportunity in deserts due to high temp + sunlight  
- can lead to desertification  
- benefits of farming become causes of degradation in TRF / deserts

5	Ecotourism	♂	Global ecosystems	Value of TRE	Selective logging and replanting
4	Conservation and education	♂	250mm	Deforestation	80% illegal activities
3	Western Desert	Food web	Epping Forest	Commercial Farming	Desertification Management: - depletes natural bounds - appropriate tech
2	Debt reduction	♂	♂	Consumer	
1	Population growth	♂	♂	♂	

Geography Learning Grid: Living World

Well Done!

Congratulations to Zac Stewart (Year 9) and Ethan Abbate (Year 10), both have just gained distinction in their Grade 8 Jazz Saxophone exams.

**Mrs Casling,  
Head of Music**

**Congratulations!**





## PE News

### Girls' Football

Here are some of our brilliant Year 7, 8 and 9 girls on their toes and working hard training with Kim Dixon, Charlton coach and ex England player. Week 1 of 6 sessions. Great start girls!!!

***Mr Lines, Head of PE***



Our girls' football team were fortunate enough to receive free tickets from Charlton Athletic Football Club at The Valley over the half term. Storm Eunice didn't deter our girls from supporting the local side on Saturday 19th and Tuesday 22nd February. Such a fantastic opportunity to see football live! A football-tastic season ahead... Kim Dixon from Charlton Athletic Academy coaching our Year 7-9s this term after school, the U16 Kent Cup final next month and our U14 'Sisters n Sport' next round of the shield!

***Mrs Kemp, PE Department***





There's another way to follow along with the goings on in the PE department, now via Instagram @bexleygspe. This is in addition to our Twitter @BexleyGSPE and we can also be found at Facebook.com/BexleyGSPE.





Translation competition open to all students of French, German, Italian, Mandarin and Spanish (Years 7-13, all IB levels welcome!)

Join our GC groups to submit an entry:

German **gzsc2ge**  
 Italian **h3shchd**  
 Spanish **gznoh6k**  
 French **qq6in7m**  
 Mandarin **yefdq3f**

Glossaries are provided for each text, but students are welcome to use dictionaries and online resources

when completing their translation at home. All translation tasks are into EN.

For further information, please contact Miss Giglione ([giglione\\_m@bexleygs.co.uk](mailto:giglione_m@bexleygs.co.uk)).

## Key Information

- Students can participate in the competition in **as many levels and languages as they wish**.
- Students may use the **glossaries** attached to each task, online dictionaries and other resources.
- Students shall receive **no assistance** from teachers or parents when completing the task.

Judges will look for balance between **creativity** and **accuracy**.

That's exactly what a great translation is – it's faithful to the original author's intentions, but that doesn't mean the translator can't have fun with their words.

## Advice to students from last year's judges



**Anam Zafar:** if you've never tried translation before, don't assume it will be too difficult or that you won't like it. You won't know until you try. And don't worry if your translation turns out completely different to your classmates – that's actually what we want to see! There are an infinite number of ways to translate the same text.



**Jessica Rainey:** The competition provides a framework for students according to ability, which means they can piece together the initial translation. The key phase is then taking that literal version and turning it into something that sings. Constantly ask yourself questions: What is the writer saying or implying? How would we write that in English? Could that metaphor be adapted to have greater resonance for the reader? Does the dialogue sound natural? But the most important thing is just to have a go! And have fun doing it.

## Deadline

16:00 h  
 Thursday  
 31st March 2022



**INVESTIN****Summer Career Experiences in London**

Immersive Experiences | 15 industries | Ages 12-18



Following last week's government announcement to end all Covid restrictions, we have been inundated with registrations for our Summer Experiences in London. **We are already more than 50% full across the board as students look to finally gain the in-person industry experience they've been waiting for.**

Our Summer Experiences offer life-changing opportunities to ages 12-18: immersive work experience activities under the guidance of successful professionals at top industry locations around London. Accommodation at University of London halls is available for those who want it, with all meals and guardianship included.

[View & Register: Ages 15-18](#)[View & Register: Ages 12-14](#)

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## Life-Changing Experiences

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Our summer programmes offer the ultimate, immersive experience of some of the world's most desirable careers. Highlights include:

- **Architecture**: complete design projects in a real studio
- **Art**: present your portfolio to a panel of top artists
- **Dentistry**: drill teeth on phantom heads
- **Engineering**: take apart a petrol engine with F1 engineers
- **Entrepreneurship**: pitch a business plan to top CEOs
- **Filmmaking**: direct a movie scene on a real film set
- **Forensic Science**: explore a simulated crime scene
- **Investment Banking**: trade the markets live in a London skyscraper
- **Law**: argue a case before a judge in the Supreme Court
- **Medicine**: shadow doctors in a London teaching hospital
- **Politics**: design an election campaign and attend a reception with MPs
- **Psychology**: carry out patient consultations in a simulated clinic
- **Software Engineering**: create your own app from start to finish
- **Veterinary Medicine**: examine and diagnose real animals
- **Video Game Design**: design a game and pitch to industry leaders

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## Watch the Trailer

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Click on the video below to see real footage from previous Summer Experiences.





*BGS Music Department presents*

WEDNESDAY 23RD MARCH  
2022, 6PM

# *Icons and Legends*

*an evening to celebrate some of the  
best of the best!*

Tickets £6/£4 concessions

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bexley-grammar-school-spring-concert-icons-and-legends-tickets-276683195887>



## News items you may have missed

### Dartford Orienteering Klubb

Our friends at Dartford Orienteering Klubb have two events aimed at those new to orienteering coming soon:

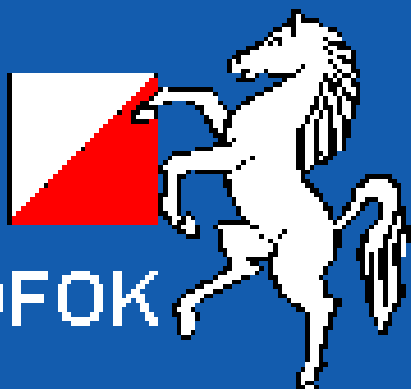
- Danson Park on Saturday 5th March
- Foots Cray Meadows on Saturday 2nd April

Details are available on their website [www.dfok.co.uk](http://www.dfok.co.uk) and entry in advance is again through [racesignup.co.uk](http://racesignup.co.uk)

Andrew Evans, from DOK said "If the families of any of your pupils are interested in attending, they would be made most welcome".

I know that pupils have attended in the past and had fun - it really is a good activity to get a bit of fresh air as a family, especially as the weather starts to improve.

Mr Lines, Head of PE



## Dartford Orienteering Klubb



## 8ACR's Fundraising Event

### Our social issue

Our class chose mental health as our social issue because the majority of people who suffer from mental health are teenagers and young adults, which means a lot of people who we know. Mental health is also a very serious issue in modern day society as you never know who is suffering and so our class wanted to tackle the issue together with your support.

### Our Charity

8ACR chose Mind in Bexley to support our social issue and they are a charity that supports people who suffer with poor mental health. They are located in Bexley which is local and convenient, and they are always there to reach out to people who need help. They are currently only providing for 18 year olds and above but we spoke to Laura who was our from Mind in Bexley she said that they were soon going to start giving help to 16-18 year olds, so keep your fingers crossed for that.

### Our Social Action

To raise money and awareness to our cause we decided to do a fundraising film night to watch the movie Free Guy. We charged £2 for entry and also sold snacks too. We were going to do a movie about mental health but we decided on a feel good comedy movie as some of the age ratings were too high. We managed to raise £152.07, as well as some online donations. This money will help the charity continue to run a support phone helpline and also their food bank.

### How to donate

If you would like to donate to Mind in Bexley, the money will go directly towards their food bank. Here is our JustGiving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/8acrfirstgive>

Thanks for reading!

**Anshika Krishnan, 8ACR**





**SONG  
ACADEMY**

**FIND YOUR VOICE  
FIND YOUR TRIBE**

## **THE YOUNG SONGWRITER 2022 COMPETITION**

***Now open for entries!***

**Calling all young songwriters, creative writers & musicians!**

- Aged 8-18? Written your own original songs? Fancy writing your first song?
- The Song Academy Young Songwriter 2022 competition **#SAYS22** is open for entries until the 31st March 2021.
- **Win great prizes** (including a recording studio session and Yamaha equipment worth £1,000), have opportunities to be heard & connect to young songwriters worldwide.
- With judges including **Tom Odell, Plested, Tom Grennan, Miranda Cooper & Calum Scott**, this year will be bigger than ever!
- Check out [songacademy.co.uk/SAYS22](https://songacademy.co.uk/SAYS22) for inspiration, tips on songwriting and how to enter **#SAYS22**.

It's a golden opportunity to have your songs heard by an incredible judging panel, connect to other young songwriters, win some fantastic prizes & have access to exclusive opportunities!



# Club Swimmers

We have a gala at Colfe's School on  
Tuesday 8th March.

We will be taking teams from Years 7  
to 10 female and male and will be  
competing in 50m races across all  
4 strokes and relays.

Please see Mr Lines to express your  
interest and preferred races.

*Thank you*





## Forthcoming Events

### March

Wednesday 9th ~ Closing date for Sutton Trust Summer School Applications  
<https://summerschools.suttontrust.com/>

Tuesday 15th ~ Year 10 Virtual Parents' Evening  
Wednesday 16th ~ PA Meeting

Wednesday 23rd ~ Icons & Legends, 6pm (see notice)

Monday 28th ~ Power Day 4



### April

Friday 1st ~ Last day of the spring term

**Monday 4th to Monday 18th ~ Easter Holiday (including Easter Monday Bank Holiday) school closed to student**

Tuesday 19th ~ First school day following the Easter Break  
Wednesday 20th ~ PA Meeting

Tuesday 26th ~ Year 8 Virtual Parents' Evening

### May

Tuesday 3rd ~ Year 7 Virtual Parents' Evening

Wednesday 18th ~ PA Meeting



We have recently updated our **school website page**. Please click on the link [here](#) to find out more about the PA and how you can help to support your child.

Thank you

BGS PA



All BGS parents are welcome to attend our meetings!  
The next dates are:

~~23 FEBRUARY~~  
**16 MARCH**  
**20 APRIL**  
**18 MAY**

PA meetings will be held from 7.30-9.00pm either at school or on Zoom.

Please email [bgspa@bexleygs.co.uk](mailto:bgspa@bexleygs.co.uk) to confirm the meeting place.