

NEWS LETTER



11th May 2022

www.bexleygs.co.uk

'As You Like It' A Brilliant Success!

Director's Notes

"As you like it" is one of Shakespeare's finest comedies with avenging siblings and changing couples, flower power, and romance; the cast had so much fun creating this show, especially performing as a tree! They embraced Shakespeare's words and committed to the unusual story with tenacity. I'm incredibly proud of how the show has come together in a very short amount of time due to the delayed fantastic school play, "Mermaid" and House Dance/Drama.



North Kent Cup Final Thursday 12th May

Come and Support Our Year 11 Boys' Football Team

The Year 11 Boys' football team recently beat St Columba's in the North Kent Cup semi-final.

They will now play Bexleyheath Academy on Thursday 12th May at 5pm. I know the boys would love your support, so it would be great to see you down there to cap off an excellent 5 years of football for them at BGS.

Mr Martin, PE & History Department

**The game will be played at
Cray Valley (PM) - The Artic Stadium
Middle Park Avenue
Eltham, SE9 5HP.**





Techie Club, which runs every 2 weeks, has produced two excellent designers. Congratulations to Gaia in Year 7 who designed and sourced the majority of the costumes for the production. Gaia spent many lunchtimes and after-school sessions preparing for the show demonstrating outstanding dedication. Jack Blowfield and Emily Chan, also in Year 7, designed the lighting for the show superbly and has operated the sound for the show whilst guiding, Charlotte Trillow, and Jessica Foley.

We have excellent Stage Managers: Zara Karim and Maisy Spencer running a team of superb Sixth Formers (Dan Hughes, Megan Lilse and Atemji,) and our Stage Hands Max Waghorn and Clarisse Mazieres have ensured the smooth set and prop transitions.

To lead by example this show has been co-directed by Year 10 students: Ifunanya Ayodele, Alex Innes, Isobel Stanley, James Petros, Emily Atkinson and Henry Bush. They have helped the cast to shine! Also, a special thank you to Mr Otley who has supported me through these weeks.

I hope you enjoy the show and "like it" as much as I do!

Miss Gabriel, Drama Department

Being a part of the play "As You Like It" has been a joy from start to end. The plot of the play itself is full of betrayal, lovers, friendship and comedy! We managed to bring together the whole play- everything including actors, costumes, props, cues, etc. in 7 weeks which was amazing to think about! We performed to 6 different audiences and I loved every second of it. This will be my last Year 7-9 play as I will be in Year 10 next year, and taking part in these is truly something I will miss. The atmosphere on stage and backstage also is so fun and I have created stronger bonds with many people who I didn't expect! Taking part in the plays is not only a good acting experience, but it is also a great way to make new friends and gain confidence. Being in scenes with my friends was so much fun! During this journey of 'As You Like It', I have had the experience of acting in a larger group (as well as my character scenes) and seeing everyone dancing in the wedding scene is something I will remember for a long time to come. I can't wait for the next whole school play!

Deya Dimitrova, Year 9

Having looked forward to playing the role of Feste in Twelfth Night and rehearsing for this back in Year 7, my first experience of being in a play at BGS, it was very disappointing when Covid and lockdown forced the play to be abandoned. I was thrilled to then learn that the school was putting on a production of "As You Like It", which provided another opportunity to be in a Shakespeare play and was fortunate to be cast as Orlando. I really enjoyed taking part in the play as the main character. I remember going to the audition and thinking that I wasn't going



to get a good part, but I did; I was quite surprised, but very thankful and excited to play the role. Despite the rehearsals taking place after school on a frequent basis, I believe it was ultimately worth all the hard work and I was happy with how the play ran. The best part for me was performing to the parents and a couple of Primary schools: Danson Primary and Fosters. The children in both schools were very energetic throughout the whole play and it seemed like they had a great time watching it. Being a Shakespeare play, the lines can be considerably challenging to learn, but as a tip for anyone who needs to learn lines, get "COLD READ", as Mr Otley says! Overall, I found it reasonably easy to learn my lines, as I just kept repeating them over and over in rehearsal - this enabled me to get used to remembering them. All the best to the future casts in the Year 7-9 plays and I'm sure they'll do as well as us!

Parris Brockwell-Low, Year 9

Taking part in 'As You Like It' this year was a brilliant experience! It was the first Shakespeare play performed in 2 years (and my first one) which made it even more special. The part I played was Phoebe, a shepherdess, and it is safe to say I really loved the role! It was a different kind of role to ones I have played before, so I learnt lots of new acting skills. Just being involved in the play was great- the atmosphere was amazing and it was clear to see everyone enjoyed being there. One of my favourite things about being in the play was the primary school tour- performing to different audiences and getting a range of reactions to the play was such a fun experience! I'd say to anyone that wants to be a part of a drama production in the future that you should go for it, as acting brings you so much confidence and joy in what you are doing and the plays are really fun to be a part of. My experience of 'As You Like It' was an amazing one and I hope I get to be a part of more plays in the future!

Zoe Allen, Year 9

'As You Like It' was such a blast! I have participated in all the school plays that have been able to go ahead since I joined the school in Year 7, and I have to say this would have to be my favourite. It was very different performing a play in Shakespearean, because of course most of the time the audience don't really know what you are talking about. This means you have to really get into your character and the setting and try and perform the lines in a way so the audience can understand what is going on. This was so much fun for me, playing the role as Touchstone, 'the clown' of the play. It was such a great character to embrace, being able to interact with the audience and add a bit of comedy to the play. Taking part in the drama shows is something I couldn't recommend more: you make so many friends, learn so many skills, gain so much confidence and of course it is so much fun! A huge thank you to Miss Gabriel, Mr Otley and all the Sixth Formers/ Year 10s that organised everything, we couldn't have done it without them!

Matilda Jackson, Year 9





Celebrating Year 9 ILP Achievements

Here are some further great examples of ILP submissions by Year 9 students...well done to everyone, once again.

Mrs Spencer, Senior Academic Mentor

Can you make a self-propelled mode of transport out of Lego? (extract)

For my ILP, I wanted to take my love of Lego building and give myself the huge challenge of making a skateboard of my own design. This was a new challenge for me as I hadn't built anything of this size before let alone without instructions.

I started my research by looking into various building techniques I could employ to create the largest and strongest board possible. I also watched two different TV shows. One was a show called Lego Masters which gave me very advanced building techniques and the other was an episode of James May's Toy Stories in which he builds a full working house out of Lego which gave me techniques for building big. I looked at the different bricks and wheels which Lego made. I soon realised that I already had the largest wheels Lego made. I also researched the different types of skateboards and their different designs. This gave me some ideas for the shape of my skateboard.

I started out by separating all of my bricks to get the flatter ones that I would use to create the main base of my skateboard. I chose these bricks over the larger ones as I hoped that the final base would look better and be lighter.

Then I turned my attention to the wheels. I was mainly worried how I would attach the wheels and if they would be strong enough to support my weight.

I started off with a design that resembles that of a longboard with the wheels on the sides of the board. I picked this design as I thought that it looked better than a regular skateboard. The only issue with this design was some of the parts that connected the wheels to the board kept bending outwards whenever I tried to push the board. I needed to add more support but not compromise my design.

In the end it is possible to create a self-propelled mode of transport out of Lego, in this case a skateboard. However, due to the fact that Lego does not make strong enough wheels to support someone's weight, it means that it would not be usable. The weight of a person on the board would pop the wheels out of place or compress the tyres too much so that the board cannot move.

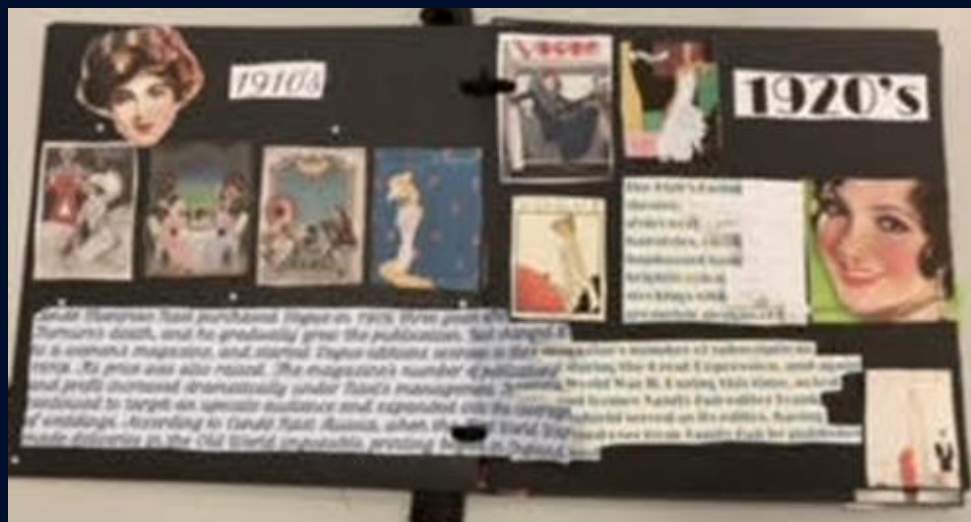
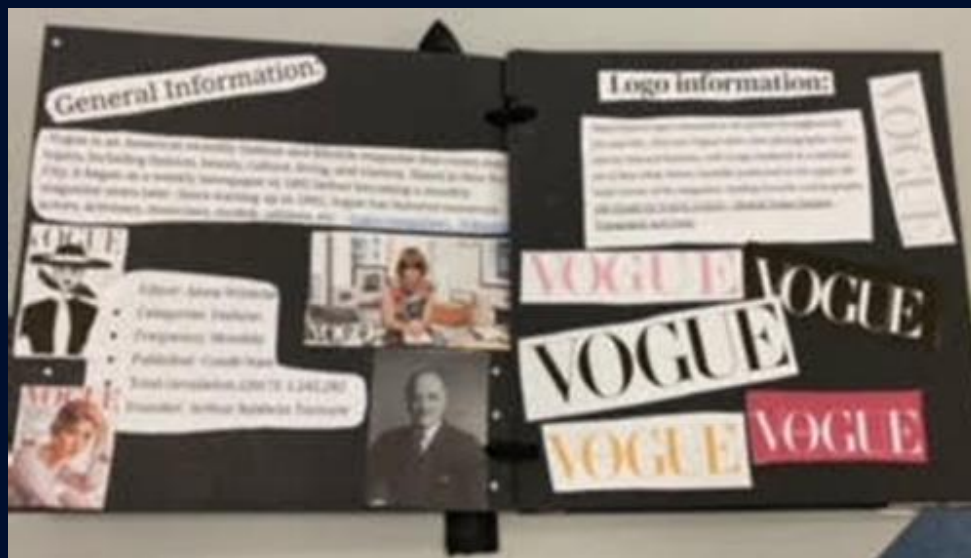
I have found that this topic has been incredibly interesting to research, build and test even if in the end the skateboard didn't work. It has also been a difficult challenge to even try to make a stable build and now that I have done it I am quite proud.

Luke Howard, 9MEM





Hattie Kenney, 9AMM





Charity Raffle For The Ukrainian Crisis

Thank you to everyone who donated towards our hampers- from everything we received we managed to fill 8 of them! As well as this, we have been able to put together lots of mini gifts which can be bought individually.

Monday 16th May- Friday 20th May in the Canteen during P5 Lunch

Our 8 Hampers Include

- ♥ A chocolate hamper with a range of Easter eggs.
- ♥ 2x 'Family Hampers', which have items ranging from toys, stationery and a fruit cake made by Ms Stoddard!
- ♥ A book hamper which comes with notebooks and a variety of highlighters and coloured biros.
- ♥ 4x 'Beauty Hampers', which contain toiletries (moisturisers, bath salts, lip balms), beautiful candles and brands including Cath Kidston.

Prices

- ♥ Raffle Tickets: £1 per strip
- ♥ Sweets: 25p
- ♥ Mini trio toiletry Bag: £1.50
- ♥ Individual Mini Body Wash: 50p
- ♥ Individual Mini Perfume: £1.50



Thank you again for donations, it'll be great to see how much we can raise in support of the Ukrainian Crisis.

Katie Neicho & Kiera Lincoln, Year 12





ABRSM Exams July 2022

Entries for ABRSM exams July 2022 @ Bexley Grammar School

Entries must be made by completing the google form linked [here](#). If you are not sure if your child is due to take an exam, please contact their instrumental/vocal teacher before completing the form. Deadline for entries and payment on parent pay is May 27th 2022. If your child is taking part in the grade-1-athon and taking an ABRSM exam, this form will need to be completed.

Thank you

Mrs Casling, Head of Music

Library News

Dracula Daily Challenge

The classic horror story of Dracula is told in diary entries and letters which take place between May 3rd and November 7th. There is a Daily Dracula challenge, in which you read the book in 'real time' by reading the diary entries on the correct days. If you'd like to take part in this challenge, we have copies of Dracula in the Library, or you can subscribe to the Dracula Daily newsletter, and they will email you the excerpts on the correct days. There is also an archive for any days you might miss!

<https://draculadaily.substack.com/about>

Mrs Carey, School Librarian





PE News

Well Done Dylan!

On Sunday 8th May I ran the Greenwich & Bexley Hospice mini marathon. I was running in memory of my dad who was supported by the hospice before he passed away. It was 2.62 miles (4K) and took place in Greenwich Park.

I don't run very often so this was a great challenge for me! I was very nervous in the run up. When I woke up in the morning it was a lovely sunny day. I was excited to get going. Once at the park I was joined by a few of my friends who were supporting me by running with me. Once we got going I really enjoyed it. It was so great to see everyone running for a great cause, and to see family and friends cheering us on. It was emotional, but I'm so pleased I did it. I loved it and managed a pretty decent time too!

I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has donated to me already, I have managed to raise nearly £2,000 for the hospice!

There is still time to donate if you'd like to by clicking on the link below, and hopefully help me get over the £2k target.

<https://www.justgiving.com/dylanjbanks>

Dylan Banks, Year 8



Warm up to Wimbledon!

Glorious sunny day for the girls' tennis on Thursday 5th May against Bromley High School. Lovely league game with the Year 7/8s unfortunately losing, but the 9/10s stormed to victory against their B team after being exhausted playing their A team!

A cheery bunch of girls who were a pleasure to take to the fixture. Well done... More matches due this term so watch this space.



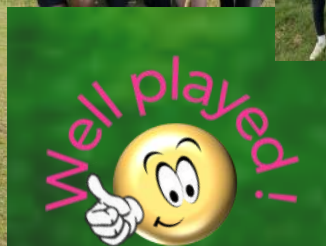
Mrs Kemp, PE Department



Bexley Rounders Tournament

And the girls triumph again... this time at rounders! Superb play from both of the Year 10 rounders team at the Bexley Tournament on Tuesday 10th May. What a comeback with us fielding two teams at the tournament. Everyone loves rounders, good to see you all enjoying the summer extra-curricular again. Well played to all! WINNERS!

Mrs Howard and Mrs Kemp
PE Department



North Kent Cup Final ~ Thursday 12th May, 5pm

Good Luck to our Year 11 boys! See the front page for details of how you can come and support the team.

Aidan Wicks
Leo Ridge
Riley Woods
Oli Knight (c)
Mason McKenna
Dayo Sijuade
Dillon Walton
Obi Igwe
Arinze Chukwejekwu
Eman Eyin
Jonny Lawson
Liam Hutchings
Dexter Gilchrist
Ilkan Aydigun
Malachy Turner





FAO Parents of Year 8

A reminder of the Diploma Evening on **Tuesday 17th May**. Thank you for your responses for tickets, it promises to be a great, if busy evening. Please arrive early in order to reserve your seats as they are allocated on a first come first served basis. Some seats may have slightly restricted views due to demand. The evening starts at 16:00 and presentations will start promptly at 16:30.

I hope to see as many of you there as possible to celebrate the year group's efforts over the past two years in the Diploma, as well as seeing their fantastic work with their CAS journals.

Best wishes,

Mr Martin, Year 8 Director of Studies



Year 8 KS3 Diploma Celebration Evening!

Tuesday 17th May

4:00 - 4:30pm

CAS Journal Exhibition

4:30 - 6:00pm

Diploma Evening

6:00 - 8.00pm

Social Gathering

hosted by the PA



KS3 SHOWCASE

WEDNESDAY 25TH MAY

**TICKETS £5 / £3 CONCESSIONS
AVAILABLE FROM
EVENTBRITE.CO.UK**



BGS MUSIC DEPT

FUNDRAISING FOR NEW TIMPANI DRUMS

'FUNDS FOR DRUMS!'

PLEASE SPONSOR US VIA OUR GOFUNDME PAGE AT
[HTTPS://GOFUND.ME/1D07EB41](https://gofund.me/1D07EB41)

2022

SPONSORED GRADE-1-ATHON

Please register your involvement by completing the google form:
<https://forms.gle/Pcy4RSfPf9tUP2Aj6>



BGS PA

Summer Raffle!



Fantastic prizes to be won!

Grand prize: £200 Bluewater Voucher

- ★ Family Day Out at Windsor Castle
- ★ 4 Tickets for The London Bridge Experience & Tombs
- ★ Fire Pit BBQ
- ★ 4 Adventure Island Tickets
- ★ £50 Amazon Voucher
- ★ His & Her Pamper Hamper
- ★ For the Gin Lover
- ★ Plus many more prizes!

Tickets £1 each

To buy your tickets, visit:
bgspa.co.uk/raffle

Last day
to buy raffle
tickets online
is Fri 3 June.

The draw
will be on
11 June at the
Summer Fayre &
winners notified.



**only
24**

**reduced price
wristband
tickets
left!**

**To purchase, visit:
bgspa.co.uk/adventure**

BGS PA



News items you may have missed

BGS Summer Fayre & Sports Day

Saturday 11th June 2022



Important Notice

Our annual joint Sports Day and Summer Fayre is nearly upon us! On Saturday 11th June, **students in Years 7 to 10 and Year 12 will attend school from 9.30am until approximately 2.45pm.** Parents, friends and Years 11 and 13 are welcome to join us from 10.30am until approximately 2.15pm but please note that there will be no parking available on site. Please remember to plan for the day off in lieu on **Monday 13th June** when the **school is closed** (apart from public examinations).

There are now over forty stalls, many of them traditional, some refreshingly new. Please join us to support your child at the Fayre and at the Sports Day track events, finishing with the relays towards 2.00pm. There is stiff competition between the Houses, as ever; the day promises excitement for all! Please be aware that your son/daughter should be prepared for spending most of the day outside. Students are welcome in their own clothes (at no charge) but are being encouraged to support their House colours. **Students should have a hat, sun cream and a bottle of water for the day.** The canteen will be serving lunch as usual (cashless and cash transactions welcome) and there will also be a range of world foods available, from fabulous Japanese food to mouth-watering pulled pork!

We do not anticipate poor weather, but in the event of sustained torrential rain the school will decide on the appropriate course of action after morning registration.

Mrs R Mallin
Assistant Head





BGS Summer Fayre & Sports Day

Saturday 11th June 2022

10.30am - 2.30pm



**ALL students are expected to attend school on Saturday 11th June.
(9.25am-2.30pm)**

Monday 13th June will be a day off in LIEU.

All competitors must wear their BGS PE kit and appropriate footwear for their event.

All non-competitors can attend in non-uniform, but we would like to see their House colour represented in some way.

Students will register in their form rooms with their tutor in the morning at 9.25am and again at 2.30pm when they will be dismissed.

Parents, extended family and friends are all invited to join us at 10.30am for this much awaited event.

Any questions please feel free to contact me.

Mrs Mallin

**Donations welcome
Raffle prizes
Bottles for the Tombola
New/unused toys
Crockery- for smashing**





BGS PA Craft Club...

**would love to upcycle
your old cotton textiles!**

Can you donate any of these items:

- jeans
- t-shirts
- duvets, sheets, pillowcases
- new fabric / scraps, wool or ribbon

**Please leave at reception (by Fri 13 May)
in a bag marked 'PA Craft Club'**

e: bgspa@bexleygs.co.uk

thank you!



Forthcoming Events

May

Thursday 12th ~ Last Day Year 11 (click [here](#) to read Mr Skinner's/ Miss Anderson's Dates for your Diary Letter)
~ North Kent Cup Final, 5pm (see notice)

Wednesday 18th ~ PA Meeting

**Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June - Half Term
school closed to students**

June

Saturday 11th ~ Summer Fayre & Sports Day (normal school day - see notice)

**Monday 13th ~ Day in lieu of SF&SD school closed to students except
for public examinations**

**Please click [here](#) to the full summer term
calendar of events**

BGS PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

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
to confirm the meeting place.