

# NEWSLETTER

www.bexleygs.co.uk

5th October 2022



\*Scroll to Pages 16-18 for the  
Year 11 & 13 mock exam timetables

## THINKING BLACK

### Thinking Black Creative Writing Prize

Earlier this year, I was selected from a range of Black students from all over the country to participate in the "Thinking Black Creative Writing Prize" for Year 10s which is a programme run by Jesus College and New College of Oxford University. The programme consisted of 6 weeks of online training every Saturday from 10-12 am. Across the weeks, the training sessions included teaching for the styles of writing, poetry, plays and prose and other sessions where we wrote drafts and tried to extend our writing which was marked by other students of Oxford and published authors.

All the topics related to black individuals and we studied more about our history from the foundations of African/Caribbean literature (like folklore of the gods) to Windrush, post migration literature and works about the diaspora. We would analyse each text and have class discussions on them. Then we received our prompts to base our entries on: "Black" by Dave or an excerpt from a speech by Michelle Obama. We wrote our drafts for submission in June and submitted the final pieces in July after editing with some feedback. Each category had their overall winners who would win a workshop with **United Agents** (a literary and talent agency), cash prizes, trophies, publication in an online anthology and a celebration day at Oxford. **United Agents** publish elite authors like David Olusoga, Benjamin Zephaniah, David Attenborough and Stephen Hawking. I happened to come first place in my section, prose, and attended the workshop at **United Agents** in August which was amazing. I met the agents, went on a tour of the building and had a very informative Q&A session with them. It made the idea of working in a company like theirs seem very appealing, especially the prospect of free books most of your life and going to a wide range of premieres (as they also make book to film adaptations and film to book)!

I will be going to Oxford in October for the award ceremony. I will be given a tour of the colleges and meet a panel of current and former students who will discuss how to get into Oxford. I would recommend this programme for any black Year 10 students looking to extend their writing while gaining valuable experiences!

**Wura Ajayi, Year 11**

**Congratulations!**



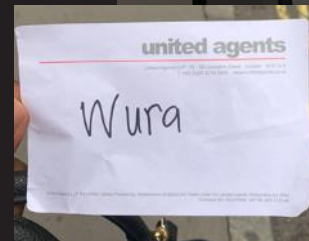
**united agents**  
THE LITERARY & TALENT AGENCY



Congratulations, Wura, such a deserved achievement for your continued drive and determination! We look forward to reading your entry to the competition and hearing about the award ceremony soon!

*Ms Hanington, English Department*

**THINKING  
BLACK**



## Black History Month Science Trail

### Who am I? - Black Scientists Competition!

### For Year 7 and Year 8

Please visit all of the Science rooms. On the doors you will find information on some famous Black Scientists, use this information to find out the names of the scientists on each door (hint use the library/internet).

Please collect a form from your Science teacher.  
Once completed please submit to Mrs Moore  
(Head of Science) in the science office  
(next to M15).

THERE IS A PRIZE FOR THE FIRST  
FORM WITH ALL CORRECT ANSWERS!!







# YEAR 10

*Welcome back and great start to your GCSE year*  
*DOS Golden Weekly Award (26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> September)*

*Congratulations to all the recipients of the award this week:*

- *Charlie Butler - 10EAB*
- *Isabelle Dorney - 10MGG*
- *Elouise Knowles - 10IAB*
- *Thomas Everson - 10AMM*
- *Jesse Oshogwe - 10MEM*
- *Cynthia Hin - 10JEA*
- *Bao Nguyen - 10ELS*

## *Year 10 Form attendance Award* *26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> September*

*The form with the highest attendance this week is:*

**10JEA**

*Congratulations to all students in Ms Adlington's form.  
Let us do it again next week*

*Names of our Year 10 student council representatives will  
be announced next week. Watch the space!*

*Success comes with perseverance*

*Mr Oyedeji*





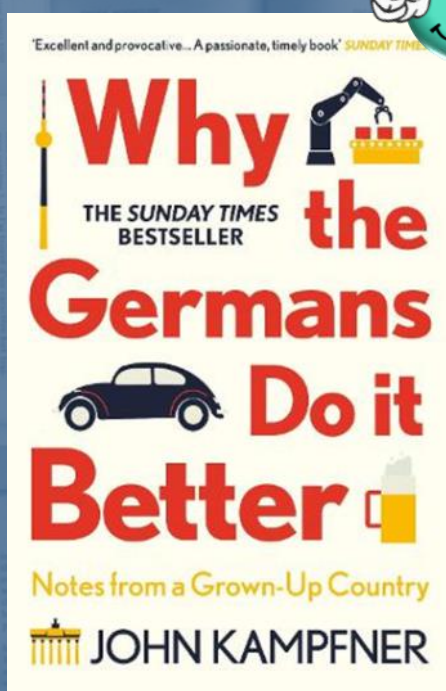
## Economics & Business Book Review

Each month, we hope to inspire you with a review of one of our books. We have invested into our own mini library in the "Knowledge Corner" in M12 and invite students to borrow, read, learn and inspire! Contact Mrs Harris to find out more.

### Why the Germans Do It Better

John Kampfner's "Why the Germans Do It Better" is an eye-opening book about Germany's transition from the ruins of World War II to the modern day with a deep analysis of the German economy, political system, and people. For a book that's title focuses on Germany, it was also very informative about the UK, especially how the UK has handled the same issues as Germany, and how the two countries' similar systems have had different results. I learnt a lot about the successes and failures of both countries and the political and economic policies that achieved them. I also became more aware of the importance of learning from other countries and cultures in our pursuit of the best solutions for the increasingly difficult and frequent problems we face today. While especially useful and interesting for a politics or economics student as the book provides valuable examples of policies working in real life and the results of them, the book would be great for anybody interested in learning about the rise, ideas and flaws of one of the strongest nations in the world.

*Isfandiyor Zamonov, Year 13*







## PE News

### Senior Netball

It was great to get the senior netball team back on court on Wednesday afternoon for a fixture against CSGS. There was a bit of early-season rust, but the team played some superb netball in a narrow defeat.



### Year 7 Girls' Football

A great start for our Year 7 football team, who attended a tournament at Welling School, today. A tremendous effort by all the students involved! Well done!



### Bexley Mini Marathon 2022 Trials

Congratulations to Parris Brockwell Low who competed and came first in the U15 Boys trials for the Bexley Mini Marathon 2022. With a time of 9 minutes and 6 seconds, he beat boys in the U17 Bexley squad coming 48<sup>th</sup> out of 152 nationally!



### Year 9 Rugby

The Year 9 rugby team opened their account with a brilliant performance against Bets, winning 45-10 in the sunshine. 4 tries from Stelios will steal the headlines, but it was immense tackling from the whole team that was the key to victory. Well played boys!



**Mr Lines, Head of PE**





### Great Work Casper and Raef!

We'd like to offer our congratulations to Caspar Nalepa and Raef Owen (Year 9) who represented Kent at the County Team Championships in Sheffield this weekend. With their help, Kent won the competition - well done!

**Mr Lines**



### Year 10 Rugby

The Year 10 rugby team had their first game of the season on Tuesday and suffered a narrow 24-12 defeat against Beths. In a tough, physical game, the boys represented themselves brilliantly, and made it very hard for our opponents. Tries from Andy and Elijah weren't quite enough, but lots of reasons for optimism in our forthcoming matches.

### Year 11 Netball

It's not always about winning - true sportsmanship at its best with our Year 11 netball team! Honesty, fair play and respect. Proud of you... Well done girls, so lovely to have you represent BGS. Good luck in the senior House netball next week.

**Mrs Kemp**



### Senior Girls' Football

First run out of the year for our U19's, first time for many of them playing together. New Year, new team. A loss of 2-1 against Bullers Wood but so many positives to take away and build upon. Well done ladies!

**Mrs Howard**

# Royal Society Science Book Prize

This year's shortlisted books, chosen from over 200 submissions, represent the very best in popular science writing from around the world for a non-specialist audience.



Since 1988, the Royal Society has celebrated outstanding popular science writing and authors. Over the decades, the Prize has celebrated some notable winners including Bill Bryson and Stephen Hawking, and most recently Merlin Sheldrake and Dr Camilla Pang in **2021** and **2020** respectively.

Each year our panel of expert judges, comprising eminent scientists, authors, journalists and broadcasters, choose the book that they believe makes popular science writing compelling and accessible to the public.

**The Final Winner will be announced on November 29th 2022.**

**GET INVOLVED: Read a book and submit a review for the school magazine.**

Email book reviews to [lusted\\_r@bexleygs.co.uk](mailto:lusted_r@bexleygs.co.uk) by 29th November.





# DIVERSITY IN STEM CAREERS TALK



- **Live virtual discussion with a panel of professionals.**
- **Hear from a range of speakers who work in STEM.**
- **Professionals from a wide range of STEM careers share their experiences of being an ethnic minority, neurodiverse or a female in a male dominated field.**
- **Essential for EVERYONE interested in a STEM career.**

**Wednesday 12th October**  
**M16 at 3.15pm**







## Prachi Thapa wins U14 Stephen Spender Translation Prize 2022!

### The competition

The Stephen Spender Prize is an annual competition for poetry in translation run by the prestigious Stephen Spender Trust, which champions multilingualism and literary translation through a range of initiatives.

This year the judges included award winning poet Daljit Nagra, Samantha Schnee, founding editor of 'Words Without Borders' and Khairani Barokka, an Indonesian writer, artist, and translator.

### Prachi's translation

Prachi translated 送杜少府之任蜀州, 王勃 ("Farewell To Vice-Prefect Du Setting Out For His Official Post In Shu"), by Wang Bo.

Original text in Mandarin:

城阙辅三秦，  
风烟望五津。  
与君离别意，  
同是宦游人。  
海内存知己，  
天涯若比邻。  
无为在歧路，  
儿女共沾巾。



Translation:

Through this wall that surrounds the three Qin districts,  
Through a mist that makes five rivers one,  
I am filled with sadness that we should have to part,  
We are two officials going opposite ways....  
And yet, while China holds our friendship,  
And heaven remains our neighbourhood,  
Let us not wallow in sorrow as our paths separate,  
And cry without hesitation like the young at home.

### Prachi's commentary

I think to understand this poem, you must know the feeling of letting go of a person you hold dear in your heart. You don't want to say goodbye but deep in your mind, you know that it is time for you to move on, you may never find someone like them again, but you will meet someone else. And then, the places you walked together are forever stored in your heart and the history of the place. In Mandarin, there are a lot of meanings to one word, you could take it literally or not so that it makes more sense. For example, the word 服务员 literally translates to service professional person but to make it simple, it means attendant. A lot of Chinese poems refer to the history behind China. Line 1 refers to the Qin Dynasty, the first dynasty in Ancient China and Line 5 displays how something as simple as the place we are holds memories of us and what we did there. Another hard thing was that because some words have no literal meaning while searching for several translations of the last line, it had resulted in children searching for towels. When I found a more suitable translation that fit the theme of the poem well, I instead used that.

Well done Prachi! Mrs Lu and the MFL department are very proud of you!

**Miss Giglione,  
MFL Department**





Dear Habiteers (I like to think that there is a group of you out there awaiting my next article; please don't shatter this illusion!).

Responses to the [anonymous survey](#) continue to come in. I was delighted to learn more from the student who said that a small change in habit had led to some significant differences in their life. They got back in touch to say a little more. Celebrate with me as we hear that the change has continued, and learn more from this hero of habits:

# habits

"I've been sticking with my routine and, in case you're wondering what the trigger to my bad behaviour was, it was simply me having my phone on. At the start of the academic year, I told myself that I could only use my phone after doing my homework and have kept it in my blazer until I've finished. I've intentionally made it harder for myself to want to use my phone by keeping it locked and zipped and I think other people should try it as well, as in just a couple of days, you will genuinely see yourself feel more productive and be filled with less regret at the end of the day."

Little change - big difference! Do *you* have a story to share?

You are feeling sleepy...

Another response to the survey was from someone who is now "going to sleep earlier". This is a habit that will reap huge benefits if they are able to keep it up. Sleep is something that is essential to almost every creature on earth. We're so vulnerable when asleep that evolution wouldn't have kept sleep as a behaviour if we didn't *really* need it to survive and function. We still don't know or understand everything we want to regarding sleep, but most of us know how much better we are after a few good nights of sleep.

So, how are *you* doing with sleep?

The ideal amount of sleep for teenagers is 8-10 hours a night, and 7-9 hours for adults (see the [Sleep Foundation's website](#) for more). Lots of us don't get nearly that much, and this is something to work on. According to the founder of the Sleep Foundation - neuroscientist and psychologist Matthew Walker - "Sleep is the single most important thing you can do to reset the health of your brain and body." Sounds important, right?

Sadly, bumping up the amount of sleep you get each night requires bigger changes to your routine than zipping your phone away until homework is done. Each of us has a whole sequence of habits that make up our evening routines, and there might be a lot of unpacking of those before you consistently manage an earlier bedtime. It will be worth it, but it will take work.

This is the challenge I offer you: consider how much sleep you currently manage each night and aim to build that by one hour, every night, by Christmas.

How might you do that? This article is not long enough to go into everything that you might want to try, so I'm going to have to keep it brief and point you in other directions.

**The Sleep Foundation** has a whole list of suggestions to follow for [a bedtime routine](#) and even offers a 14-day programme to support those who might need it (there doesn't *appear* to be a charge for this, but I make no promises).

**Inner Drive**, one of my favourite sources of useful science and research, offers some [similar advice](#) but with a more student-focused approach.





Some habits are worth the effort, and improving the quantity and quality of your sleep is definitely worth it. Now, it's over to you.

What will you do this week to make your life better?

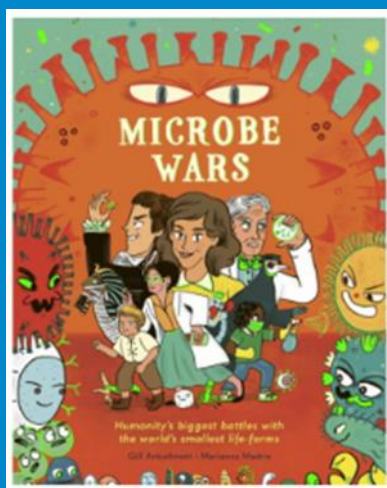
**Mr Asker, Head of Psychology**

# habits

## ROYAL SOCIETY YOUNG PEOPLE'S SCIENCE BOOK PRIZE Year 7&8 Competition

The Young People's Book Prize aims to promote literacy in young people and to inspire them to read about science. It also supports the writing of excellent, accessible STEM books for under-14s.

Featured books have  
been purchased for  
the Library



A [Shortlisting panel](#) made up of scientists, an actor, a teacher, and children's authors has whittled down dozens of titles to six of the year's most fascinating books. We have selected the three most suitable for Year 7 students.

**Your challenge is to read one (or more!) and write a book review.**

**The best reviews will be featured in the school magazine and on the school website.**

**Email your book reviews to [lusted\\_r@bexleygs.co.uk](mailto:lusted_r@bexleygs.co.uk)**



THE ROYAL SOCIETY  
INSIGHT INVESTMENT  
SCIENCE BOOK PRIZE

Game-changing reads  
for curious minds  
#scibooks

Sponsored by





# IT'S OFFICIAL HE'S GOING TO BUILD A ROCKET!

## Bexley Grammar School Rocketry Club

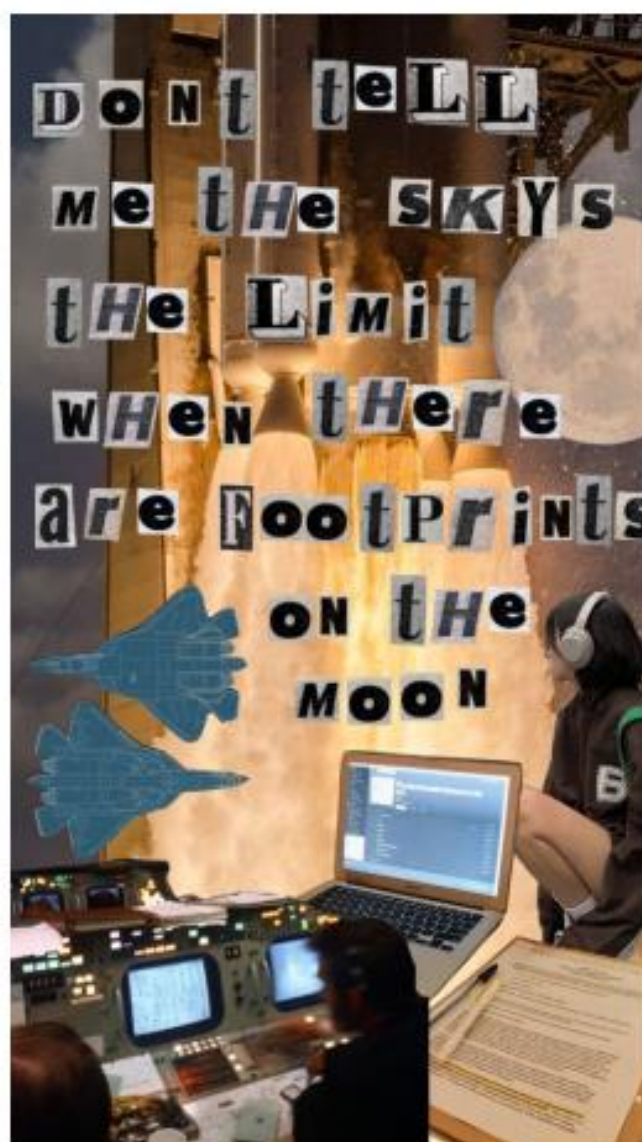
My plan is to build a fully functioning model rocket that can launch an egg and safely return it to earth. The rocket will be participating in the Regional Heats of the UKROC in April 2023, with National Heats and International Heats at the Paris Air show (if we win the regional heats). Looking for people who have a genuine interest in engineering, space technologies, physics, chemistry, design and technology, and maths - who are willing to commit to the project long term.

# JOIN HIM!

## FOR ALL YEAR GROUPS!

The plans is to commence after October Half-Term if numbers are sufficient. Please email [17amlani.n@bexleygs.co.uk](mailto:17amlani.n@bexleygs.co.uk) if you plan on attending the club; with your name and year group. Expected to run once a week on either Mondays or Thursdays (potentially at lunch time however it may be easier for all to do it after school).

*Nabi Amlani, Year 12*







# INVESTIN

IMMERSIVE CAREER EXPERIENCES

★ Trustpilot  4.9/5 from 1,900+ reviews



INVITATION FOR PARENTS:

**FREE TO ATTEND**

## SUCCESS BEYOND SCHOOL

HOW TO COACH TEENAGERS TOWARDS A SUCCESSFUL CAREER

We are delighted to announce the first events in our Success Beyond School series for this academic year. These are live online seminars featuring career experts, designed to help parents amplify their children's career potential.

The events are for parents of students aged 12-18 and are free to attend.

### 12TH OCTOBER: MAKING IT IN MEDICINE

Expert advice on how to get into medical school

### 16TH NOVEMBER: FUTURE-PROOFING STUDENTS

Preparing students for the jobs of the future

### 30TH NOVEMBER: FINDING A FUTURE IN FINANCE

Gaining the skills for a career in Finance

**Register Now**



## EXPERIENCES IN 19 CAREERS

Explore our life-changing, immersive career opportunities for ages 12-18, which take place at UCL and live online.

Weekend programmes are available throughout this term, we are currently offering a 15% discount on our flagship summer programmes.

**Register Now**





## Special Educational Needs Department

### Tea & Talk

Bexley Voice welcomes all members and non-members at our Tea & Talk sessions. Come along and meet with other parent/carers and get information and support on any SEND (special educational needs & disabilities) issues. Come to all or part of the morning. You only need to book in advance if you would like an individual session with the professionals attending the event.

Tea & Talk -  
Thursday 13th October 9:30am-12:30pm (Daytime)  
Tuesday 18th October 6:30pm-8:30pm (Evening)

#### **Future Tea & Talks - dates for your diary:**

Thursday 10th November DAYTIME  
Thursday 8th December DAYTIME

**Mrs C Haslam, SEND and Inclusion Manager**



## SEND Sensory Room, Now open for Business!

Welcome to the new BGS Sensory room, located in the S-Block. The room has been created for those SEND students who have a specific Sensory need to aid in their School learning, for any students that have issues with high anxiety, or simply for those in need of a brief respite from the classroom environment.

It is equipped with numerous tools to help with emotional regulation, calming visual and aural effects, comfy seats (modelled here by Owlbert, the Mabbs House Mascot) and a wonderful 'Fabric Wall' which was beautifully created, compiled and donated thanks to the efforts of BGS Parents Association.

So far the response from all Students, Years 7-13, has been amazing and the new room is proving to be a big hit!





**YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMINATION TIMETABLE****Friday 14th October to Thursday 20th October 2022****(Art Mock Exam – Thursday 24th and Friday 25th November in H8)**

Date	Start Time	Subject	Length	Venue	Candidates
FRIDAY 14 <sup>th</sup> October	8.30am	English Language Paper: 'A Christmas Carol' + 'An Inspector Calls' + Unseen Poetry	2hrs	Gym/Hall	192
	11.15am	Geography	1hr15	Gym	103
	1.15pm	Latin	2hrs	Gym	50
MONDAY 17 <sup>th</sup> October	8.30am	Science - Biology	1hr45	Gym/Hall	192
	11.00am	History	1hr30	Gym/Hall	89
		Ancient History	1hr45	Gym/Hall	21
		Religious Studies	1hr45	Gym/Hall	12
	1.15pm	DT	2hrs	Gym	12
		Food	1hr45	Gym	23
		PE	1hr45	Gym	20
TUESDAY 18 <sup>th</sup> October	8.30am	Maths (non calculator + calculator)	1hr + 1hr	Gym/Hall	192
	11.00am	Business Studies	1hr10	Gym/Hall	59
		Economics	1hr30	Gym/Hall	52
	1.30pm	Psychology	1hr45	Gym	52
WEDNESDAY 19 <sup>th</sup> October	8.30am	Science - Chemistry	1hr45	Gym/Hall	192
	11.00am	German	2hrs	Gym	98
		French	2hrs	Hall	120
	1.30pm	Computer Science	1hr30	Gym	59
		Drama	1hr45	Gym	32
THURSDAY 20 <sup>th</sup> October	8.30am	Science - Physics	1hr45	Gym/Hall	192
	11.00am	French (MFL 2)	2hrs	Hall	20
		Japanese	2hrs	Gym	13
		Chinese	2hrs	Gym	13
		Spanish	2hrs	Gym	53
		Italian	2hrs	Hall	32
		Russian	2hrs	Hall	17
	1.30pm	Music	1hr45	Hall	22
		CLASHES			11

Good luck ☺



**Year 13 IB Mock Examinations Timetable**  
**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November - Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

**(IB Visual Arts Mock Exam - Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November in H7 - all day)**

Date	Session	Subject	Length	Students	Venue
TUESDAY 1 <sup>st</sup> November	8.30am	English Guided Literary Analysis HL	2hrs15	H:77	Gym/Hall
		English Guided Literary Analysis SL	1hr15	S:102	Gym/Hall
		Literature + Performance	1hr30	S:26	Gym/Hall
	11.15am	History	H:1hr35/S:45m	H:28/S:14	Gym/Hall
		Geography	H:2hrs/S:1hr15	H:28/S:16	Gym/Hall
WEDNESDAY 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	8.30am	Social Anthropology	H:2hrs/S:2hrs	H:8/S:4	Gym/Hall
		Philosophy	2hrs	H:8/S:3	Gym/Hall
	11.15am	Computer Science	2hrs	24	Gym/Hall
		Latin	H:2hrs/S:2hrs	H:3/S:7	Gym/Hall
THURSDAY 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	8.30am	French (reading + writing)	1hr+1hr30/1hr15/1hr	H:13/S:45/Ab:15	Gym/Hall
		Spanish (reading + writing)	1hr+1hr30/1hr15/1hr	H:8/S:32/Ab:20	Gym/Hall
		Italian (reading + writing)	1hr+1hr30/1hr15/1hr	H:5/S:8/Ab:3	Gym/Hall
		Chinese (reading + writing)	1hr+1hr30/1hr15/1hr	S:6	Gym/Hall
		German (reading + writing)	1hr+1hr30/1hr15/1hr	H:4/S:43	Gym/Hall
	11.30am	Business Management	1hr45	H:47/S:10	Gym/Hall
	1.45pm	German (listening comprehension) HL	1hr	4	Tbc
		German (listening comprehension) SL	45m	43	Gym
		Chinese (listening comprehension) SL	45m	6	Tbc
FRIDAY 4 <sup>th</sup> November	8.30am	Maths (Analysis and Approaches) HL/SL Non Calculator + Calculator	1hr + 1hr	H:43/S:22	Gym/Hall
		Maths (Applications and Interpretation) SL Calculator	2 hrs	138	Gym/Hall
	11.00am	Global Politics	H:2hrs/S:1hr15	H:30/S:11	Gym/Hall
		Classical Greek and Roman Studies	1hr30	9	Gym/Hall
	1.30pm	Spanish (listening comprehension)HL	1hr	8	Tbc
		Spanish (listening comprehension)SL	45m	32	Gym
		Spanish (listening comprehension)Ab	45m	20	Hall
MONDAY 7 <sup>th</sup> November	8.30am	Biology	H:2hrs/S:1hr15m	H:38/S:19	Hall
	11.00am	Sports Science	H:2hrs/S:2hrs	H:18/S:5	Hall
	1.30pm	French(listening comprehension)HL	1hr	13	Tbc
		French (listening comprehension)SL	45m	45	Hall
		French (listening comprehension)Ab	45m	15	Tbc



**Year 13 IB Mock Examinations Timetable**  
**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November - Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

TUESDAY 8 <sup>th</sup> November	8.30am	Physics	2hrs	H:51	Hall
	11.00am	Psychology	2hrs	H:20	Hall
		Economics	H:1hr45	H:56	Hall
	1.30pm	Italian (listening comprehension)HL	1hr	5	Tbc
WEDNESDAY 9 <sup>th</sup> November		Italian (listening comprehension)SL	45m	8	Tbc
		Italian (listening comprehension)Ab	45m	3	Tbc
	8.30am	Chemistry	2hrs	H:42	Hall
		DT - Paper 1	1hr30	H:17/S:2	Hall
	11.15am	Environmental Systems	1hr15	52	Hall
		DT - Paper 2	1hr30	H:17/S:2	Hall
	1.30pm	CLASHES		5	

Good luck 😊

# School Photographs

## Message for Parents/ Carers of Students in Years 7, 10 & 12s

Please note: student photo id cards have been distributed via form trays this week for students in Years 7, 10 & 12.

To take advantage of the **Early Bird Discount**, please follow the instructions on your photo pack and **place your order by Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October**.

If you have any queries please email [customerservice@pret-a-portrait.net](mailto:customerservice@pret-a-portrait.net).

Thank you

**Pret-a-portrait**





We know that many families have busy lives so we thought you might appreciate a gentle

# RE M I N D E R

Don't forget to order your school photographs and do try to get your order in before the earlybird deadline\* so that you qualify for the

## 25% EARLYBIRD DISCOUNT









\*Your earlybird deadline date is printed on your viewing instructions  
Any queries please email [customerservice@pret-a-portrait.net](mailto:customerservice@pret-a-portrait.net)

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+44 1763 878065

[www.pret-a-portrait.net](http://www.pret-a-portrait.net)





## Notice for Year 7 Parents/ Carers MidYIS Test

On Thursday 6th October, all year 7 pupils will sit a computer based MidYIS test. No revision or preparation is required from the pupils in any way. Many secondary schools countrywide give students some sort of a baseline assessment on entry.

The MidYIS test is designed to measure pupils' developed ability rather than what has been taught previously in school. MidYIS assesses four key areas which research shows are linked to later academic outcomes:

- Vocabulary – word fluency and understanding
- Mathematics – logical thinking, manipulating numbers and numerical concepts
- Non-verbal ability – recognising shapes, matching patterns, applying spatial awareness and visual intuition
- Skills - such as proofreading, perceptual speed and accuracy

As the assessment is adaptive, each student sees a unique assessment and is challenged at a level that is suitable for them, making it enjoyable, engaging, and efficient.

The school uses both MidYIS baseline data, along with Key Stage 2 data, to reflect on the individual progress of students, as they move through the school, and to adapt teaching and offer support where needed. Please see below for the provisional timetable:

### Year 7 MidYIS Timetable 2022

If you have any queries, please contact Mrs Ellis.

## Safeguarding Matters

### Online extremism

We have been made aware of extremist speakers circulating on various online platforms including TikTok. As always, parents and carers should be aware of and regulate what our young people are sharing and viewing online. Internet Matters have produced some useful support for parents in learning about the issues, protecting children from them and knowing how to deal with them:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/issues/radicalisation/>



### School and personal email addresses

A reminder to all parents / carers that students should have their own personal email for anything outside of school. Bexley Grammar School email addresses should only be used for school communication.

**Mr S Auckland**

**Deputy Head and Designated Safeguarding Lead**

## The Trainline

Given the current cost of living crisis, the Trainline has put together a guide to the 16-25 Railcard (also known as the Student Railcard or Young Persons Railcard) to help students travel around UK and save money on train tickets. Click on the link below to find more.

<https://www.thetrainline.com/trains/great-britain/railcards/16-25-railcard>







WELLING ROUND TABLE PRESENTS

# DANSON PARK FIREWORKS

THE BIGGEST AND BEST  
CHARITABLE DISPLAY IN THE SOUTH EAST

# 5th Nov

STAGE BANDS MUSIC HOT FOOD COME EARLY



Scan here for  
online tickets

[www.Skiddle.com/e/36172665](http://www.Skiddle.com/e/36172665)

Or visit [dansonparkfireworks.co.uk](http://dansonparkfireworks.co.uk)

No entry without online tickets

This is an all ticket event





# **Fireworks Art Competition**

We are running an art competition in the lead up to the Danson Park Fireworks! Entries should depict fireworks in whichever medium you like! Photographs of entries should be emailed to [dansonfireworks@gmail.com](mailto:dansonfireworks@gmail.com) by 17<sup>th</sup> October 2023. The winning images will be collected from the school after half term.

Winners across 3 age ranges (up to age 7 / 7 to 13 years / 13 to 18 years) will receive 4 tickets to the event and can go up on stage to meet the Mayor of Bexley!





We are planning another intake into the MPS Volunteer Police Cadets in the next few months. Should there be enough interest we are also looking at opening another unit on the borough as our current unit is around 80 strong and extremely successful.

This is mostly aimed at 13-17 year olds but the junior session caters to those as young as 10.

There is no prerequisite to want to join the MPS although any student who does should consider this as an option. We have specific Police Cadet to PC programmes that will fast-track applications and support those involved in the VPC. The unit is open to all and we will always do our best to accommodate everyone who comes along.

If you have any further questions please get in touch.

**PC Lillian Brader | 2330SE**  
**Bexley Volunteer Police Cadets**

E-mail: [\*\*bexley.cadets@met.police.uk\*\*](mailto:bexley.cadets@met.police.uk)

Address: Bexleyheath Police Station, 2 Arnsberg Way, Bexleyheath, DA7 4QS

[\*\*https://youtu.be/okCTPCb4LI\*\*](https://youtu.be/okCTPCb4LI) - Introduction to the MPS Volunteer Police Cadets 2022 YouTube

[\*\*https://youtu.be/BKPnB4vygxU\*\*](https://youtu.be/BKPnB4vygxU) - MPS VPC Competition 2022 Parade and results YouTube



## News items you may have missed

### Notice for Year 11 Parents/ Carers & Students

The Year 11 Revision Booklet has been issued to students today. The booklet can be viewed by clicking on the link [here](#) or on the school website under the header ***Teaching and Learning/ Year 11.***

# Bexley Grammar School



Year 11  
Preparing for Revision  
2022 – 2023





## Native speakers of **Spanish**, French, German, Italian, Russian or Chinese...



We are looking for members of our school community, who are native speakers of **Spanish**, French, German, Italian, Russian or Chinese, who would like to join our amazing team of Modern Foreign Language teachers in September 2022 in maximising the exposure our Sixth Form students have to authentic conversation in their chosen language of study.

The Language team would organise a schedule around your availability, which would allow for small workshops and conversation classes of 2-5 students. We are looking for native speakers who could ask students questions and support them to articulate and develop their responses accurately. Our Language teachers would support you with the planning of the workshops and topics for discussion. Topics are interesting and include: Identity, Traditions, Tourism, Food, Culture, School Systems, Equality and The Environment.

If you would like to know more, please see this link to our FLA Advert [here](#) (also available on the school website). Alternatively you can email [reed\\_j@bexleygs.co.uk](mailto:reed_j@bexleygs.co.uk). We would welcome the chance to include our wider community in our mission to continue to provide an outstanding curriculum.

***The MFL Team***





Bexley Grammar School Parents' Association ~ Registered Charity Number: 278843

**BEXLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL PARENTS ASSOCIATION  
INVITE YOU TO OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)  
12<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021 at 7.00PM  
BEXLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL**



**Parents'  
Association**

As a parent, guardian, or carer of a child at Bexley Grammar School you are automatically a member of Bexley Grammar School Parents' Association (BGSPA).

During this meeting we will discuss the funds raised over the last school year and ask for your thoughts, ideas, suggestions, and continued support going forward. During these unprecedented times when meeting in person and hosting events is limited, any ideas to raise funds for the school will be appreciated and considered by the PA.

There will be elections for the Trustee posts during the meeting and a description of these posts is provided below.

The Trustees positions are:

- Chair
- Vice-Chair
- Treasurer
- Vice Treasurer
- Secretary
- Vice Secretary

The Trustees currently holding the posts of **Vice Treasurer and Secretary** are willing to continue in these roles for the next academic year.

The PA needs volunteers to fill the roles of **Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Vice-Secretary**

Should you wish to be considered for any of the Trustee roles or have any questions, please send your nomination/question to [bgspa@bexleygs.co.uk](mailto:bgspa@bexleygs.co.uk) ahead of the AGM. You can nominate yourself or someone else (with their knowledge and permission).

**Trustee Roles:**

If you are nominated and accept a Trustee position your details will be published on the Charity Commission's website.

**Chairperson**

Organise the PA, chair meetings, represent the PA at key school events.

**Vice Chair**

Assist and stand in for the chair as needed

**Treasurer & Vice Treasurer**

Providing financial reports for each meeting and for the AGM. Maintaining accounts and overseeing bank accounts, providing floats for events, banking funds after events, ensuring signatories are up to date, paying bills, ensuring charity details including names of trustees are updated after change of officers, and arranging for accounts to be audited.

**Secretary & Vice Secretary**

Preparing the agenda for each meeting, taking and circulating the minutes of each meeting, maintaining details of volunteers, helping to arrange the AGM and preparing the annual report.

**General Members**

Regularly attend monthly meetings help with running the PA and fundraising events.

We are an informal group of enthusiastic parents and guardians who help raise money to provide the little extras to support the education and wellbeing of our children. You can do as much or as little as you want, so please join us.

Kind Regards,

***Deann Peetoom (Chair)***

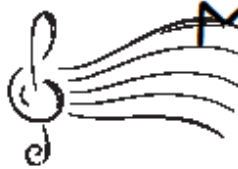





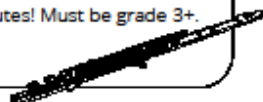





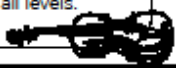



## Extra-curricular music

You can find more about our extra-curricular timetable on the poster below. If you'd like to sign up for these, please sign up for clubs [here](#) (please use your Bexleygs login).

**Mrs Goddard, Head of Music**




# MUSIC EXTRA-CURRICULAR ENSEMBLES 2022-2023

Monday	 <p><b>Clarinet Ensemble</b> <i>Ac Mon, MU2</i> Led by our clarinet teacher for those Grade 5+ Clarinet</p>	 <p><b>Flute Group</b> <i>Ac Mon, MU1</i> A group for flutes! Must be grade 3+.</p>
	 <p><b>KS3 Orchestra (Y7-9 only)</b> <i>After School, Hall</i> All orchestral players welcome - must be having music lessons on an instrument.</p>	 <p><b>Chamber Choir</b> <i>After School, MU2</i> A small vocal group for Y11-13. <u>By invitation only.</u></p>
Tuesday	 <p><b>Junior Jazz (Y7-9 only)</b> <i>Lunchtime, MU1</i> Wind, brass, rhythm section (piano, guitar, bass and drums). Grade 1+. Must read music.</p>	 <p><b>Big Band</b> <i>After School, MU1</i> Wind, brass, rhythm section (piano, guitar, bass and drums). Grade 4+. <b>Improv Group</b> continues after for exceptional performers.</p>
	<p><b>Symphony Orchestra</b> <i>After School, Hall</i> Wind, brass, strings, percussion including Piano - Grade 4+</p> 	
Thursday	 <p><b>String Group</b> <i>Ac Mon, MU1</i> For violinists, violists, cellists and double bassists of all levels.</p>	 <p><b>Senior Choir (all years)</b> <i>After School, MU1</i> 3/4-part choir, singing modern classical to pop and beyond.</p>
	 <p><b>Samba Band</b> <i>Ac Mon, MU1</i> Led by our drum teacher. <u>By invitation only.</u></p>	 <p><b>Junior Choir (Y7-8)</b> <i>Lunch, MU1</i> Open to all singers. There will be a trip to Young Voices at Wembley too!</p>
Friday	<p><b>Rock Groups</b> <i>Lunch and After School, MU2</i> <u>By invitation only</u> - if you are a serious performer on guitar, keyboard, drums or singing. Space is limited.</p>	

*Coming soon...*

Come and meet the family in our music production '**The Addams Family**'! Be part of the cast, crew and show band. We will be performing a 4-night show in July 2023. Watch out for further details and audition dates!





BEXLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

# YEAR 7 MUSIC CONCERT



MONDAY 10  
OCTOBER 2022,  
4 - 5PM  
£3/£2 CONCESSIONS

BOOKING NOW 

[www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)  
Search for 'Bexley Grammar School'





# How to apply for free school meals

You can apply for your children to receive free schools meals if you are receiving certain welfare benefits.

All children get free school meals if they are in reception, year 1 or year 2. If you receive any of the benefits below you should still apply so that the school gets extra funding.

This money could go towards things like learning support and after-school activities.

## Am I eligible?

You must already be receiving any of the following benefits to apply:

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - you must annually take home £7,400 or less in Universal Credit payments. This equals an average of £616.67 per month in net earned income (after deductions).

You are not eligible for free school meals if you receive Working Tax Credit or other support payments that are not mentioned above.

### Update

Since this advert was placed last week we have received several confirmation notifications.

The turnaround time is quick so don't delay, check if you are eligible and apply today!



### Greenwich

If your child attends a school in another borough you will need to apply to the relevant council or school directly. APPLY TO BEXLEY.

### Tower Hamlets

Children whose parents live in the borough but who attend schools outside the borough. Parents should apply to the authority where the school is located. APPLY TO BEXLEY.

### Medway

Does not specify the location of the school and just has a link to applications.

[https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200164/school\\_information/354/free\\_school\\_meals](https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200164/school_information/354/free_school_meals). May need to go via Bexley after this process.

### Bromley

If your child attends a non-Bromley school, you must apply to the local authority where the school is situated. APPLY TO BEXLEY.

### Dartford

If your child attends a non-Dartford school, you must apply to the local authority where the school is situated. APPLY TO BEXLEY.

When these applications are completed a notification should be sent to the school for us to update records accordingly but may be worth the parents sending in the email confirmation to us too.

### Bexley Application Link

<https://www.bexley.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/free-school-meals/how-apply-free-school-meals/free-school-meals-form>





## Forthcoming Events

### October

Thursday 6th Year 7 –MidYIS Test (see notice)

Monday 10th Year 7 Music Concert 4-5pm (see notice)

Tuesday 11th Open Morning for prospective Year 7s (Sept 2023)

Wednesday 12th Open Morning for prospective Year 7s (Sept 2023)

[Wednesday 12th PA AGM \(see notice\)](#)

Thursday 13th Open Morning for prospective Year 7s (Sept 2023)

Friday 14th to Thursday 20th ~ Year 11 GCSE Mock Exams (see timetable)



Wednesday 19th ~ School photo early bird discount deadline (see notice)

Thursday 20th ~ Last full school day before half term (**all students in school**)

**Friday 21st to Monday 31st Half Term (School closed to students)**



### November

Tuesday 1st ~ First day back following the half term (**all students in school**)

[Tuesday 1st to Wednesday 9th ~ Year 13 IB Mock Exams \(see timetable\)](#)