



Bexley  
Grammar  
School

# NEWSLETTER

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

10th March 2017

# BGS Celebrates World Book Day



## World Book Day 2017

### Fancy dress competition

Well done to all of the students who dressed up as their favourite book characters – I saw some wonderfully creative costumes including the Big Bad Wolf and the Three Little Pigs, Tintin, Pippi Longstocking, Veruca Salt, The Cat in the Hat, Katniss Everdeen, Hester Prynne and Arthur Dent!

A special congratulations to the winners of the competition:

1st place - Jekyll & Hyde (Nathan Bangura and Nathan Fielding)

2nd place - Mary Poppins and Bert (Sophie King and Ellie King)

3rd place – Gandalf (Tyler Applewhaite)

As a prize Nathan Bangura and Nathan Fielding will receive *Miss Peregrine's Peculiar Children Series* by Ransom Riggs.

*Mrs Carey, School Librarian*



### Book Quiz

Library prefects Adam Dykes and Joseph Hearn delivered another fun-packed book quiz in the library, creating the multiple choice quiz using Kahoot so that the students could participate in groups using their phones. Congratulations to Ryan Brockwell-Low and Rohan Dhir, our book expert champions!

*Mrs Carey*

### Drop Everything and Read!

GCSE PE climbing assessment took place with the Year 11s at The Reach in Woolwich and they even managed to 'drop everything and read' on World book day... Great balancing skills! A fantastic couple of days with these students with full marks awarded. Well done to all the students on an impressive assessment. Well deserved!

*PE Department*



## World Book Day 2017

Nicky Singer, author of *Island*, *Feather Boy* and *The Flask*, came to the school to work with Year 10 students. She delivered a talk on *Island*, describing how it was originally written as a play that was performed at the National Theatre, and eventually became a novel illustrated by Children's Laureate, Chris Riddell. Nicky then delivered Creative Writing workshops, encouraging students to examine events that have happened in their lives in order to turn them into fiction.



### 'Identify the book'

#### Competition

Congratulations to Joseph Hooton and Alaina Leung, who completed the book trail and identified all 15 books. As a prize both students will receive a book of their choice. Thank you also to Sumi Thapa, Xian Mullard and Yasmin Bekir for their help in organising this competition.

*Mrs Carey*

## Young Enterprise visits Disney's London Headquarters

On the 27<sup>th</sup> February as part of the Young Enterprise competition, Shyon Gredley, Manraj Soor and I went along to a set of talks at Disney's London Location. We were lucky enough to be able to listen to some talks from Disney's executive staff members concerning how to properly brand a product, which was an amazing experience as Disney are a business who have a very strong and well-known brand. This was an incredible opportunity for us as it allowed us to benefit from their expertise and we have gone away from the talk being more knowledgeable about how we should proceed in the Young Enterprise process. It was also a great opportunity for us as we were then allowed to talk with the lecturers to network and get more specific advice for our company. We have all come away from this experience feeling we have developed the skills to be able to help take our company to the next level and we all feel very grateful to have been given this opportunity by Disney.

This year for Young Enterprise we are working on the business venture that is Chameleon Dental and have come up with the idea of selling a colour changing toothbrush that will change colour the longer you have been brushing your teeth for. Our product is aimed towards young children, as we wanted to come up with a product that would promote good hygiene habits at such a young age. It is very important to us to try and provide a product that will be useful for people and will provide a beneficial service. Our product will soon be available for purchase for anyone looking for a unique, fun and creative toothbrush that will help promote good brushing habits for a gift for any family members or anyone who could benefit from this product.



*Bethany Blackie, Year 12*

## Sicily 2017

Our trip started with arriving at school at the very early time of 2.45 am! Everyone was tired and I think most of us slept on our way to Heathrow; I did myself. When we arrived at the airport, we checked in for 2 flights. Unfortunately, I was feeling very sick before and during the flight, leading to my sleeping at every opportunity I could. However, once we arrived in Catania, Sicily, after the flights, I felt much better, so I could enjoy the interesting town. When we got there we went and saw our first Roman Theatre, of the many we saw on this trip, where we could even see the 'backstage' area, tunnels leading under the seats and discovered that a 17th Century home had been built right onto the theatre. We walked around the town, where, like English people do, we bought chips instead of anything Italian! Soon after, we got on a coach to Hotel Lachea, our first hotel. When dinner arrived, we were all starving, but as the many, Italian courses kept coming and coming, soon we became full. Then it was time to finally go to bed and sleep.



The next morning, we woke up fairly early, quickly ate breakfast and got back on the coach to go and explore more of Sicily. We started the day by visiting a theatre and quarry. The teachers told us all about the Odeon, what it had been used for and the catacombs under the quarry. We also befriended a dog who was admiring the theatre too. Next, we went to see a large villa, the floors of which were covered in elaborate mosaics. It had some of the best preserved mosaics, depicting chariot races, hunts and scenes from famous myths. After an amazing lunch (from which we came back with piles of pizza boxes, most of which ended up with Mr Risdon), we had a long coach ride to our next hotel. Looking out the coach window, we could see the beautiful Sicilian countryside which seemed to be covered in orange trees. On arriving at the hotel, we relaxed in our rooms and found the only English channel on the TV (although the programmes were awful).

Day 3 was definitely the hottest day of them all and also when we saw the most amazing temples. From our hotel, we went to the valley of temples, which was very high up and so we could see amazing views. We explored the Temple of Hera, Concordia, Hercules, Zeus and Castor and Pollux. The Temple of Concordia was definitely the most impressive, as most of the temple was still standing. We could see most of the details here. The huge Temple of Zeus, when it was being built, was never finished, but we could still look at statues of Atlas which would have 'held up' the temple. The story of Castor and Pollux related to the Gemini the most, like me. It is said that when Castor died, his twin brother Pollux was so sad to be separated that he decided to give up his immortality. Zeus, the father of Castor and Pollux felt pity on them and placed the brothers in heaven to make up the constellation of Gemini. After the brilliant valley of the temples we looked around a museum, but, shortly, it was time to return to the hotel, for a quiz and dinner, after another very busy day.

Our fourth day in Sicily took us first to Syracuse, where we saw the ruins of an old fort, overlooking the harbour. Here, we got to go through a labyrinth of dark underground tunnels which lead us to somewhere that might have been a dungeon (or a storage room). Next, we went to the little island of Ortigia where we saw a great Cathedral that had been built over an ancient temple. We returned to the coach to visit the next site. On the way, Miss Fisher told us some brilliant myths about Cyclops and tyrants of Sicily. At the next place, we saw the largest Greek theatre in Sicily - needless to say, it was huge. After that, we looked at another quarry which was even bigger and had some not-so-nice history. There was a cave called 'the ear of Dionysius' which, from the outside, you could hear everything that was going on inside. This was connected to one of the myths Miss Fisher had told us about the paranoid tyrant, Dionysius. Finally, when we returned to our original hotel, we all performed in a "talent" show.

Unfortunately, our final day in Sicily soon arrived. We quickly packed and headed out to an extremely ancient town called Naxos. There, we could see the ruins of old houses, the strong city wall and a kiln. Our last place to visit was the town of Taormina, which we had to take a shuttle bus up to because of its high location. We wandered through the town until we got to the main spectacle, our final theatre. This theatre was definitely the most impressive. Its decorated columns still stood behind the stage and it had such a beautiful view - even when cloudy, we could vaguely see Mount Etna. Once we had wandered around the town, eating our last slices of pizza, we headed to Catania airport and once again embarked on two flights until we reached Heathrow and then Bexley Grammar at 1.00 am. We said our goodbyes and travelled home after a truly amazing trip.

## Forthcoming Events

### March

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup>** ~ A Level and IB Solo Recitals

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>** ~ Year 10 Parents' Evening

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>** ~ A Level and IB Solo Recitals

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup>** ~ School Spring Concert

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>** ~ ECM Day 4

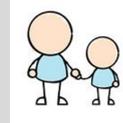
**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup>** ~ House Showcase

**Friday 31<sup>st</sup>** ~ Last day of the Spring Term

### April

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>** ~ First school day of the Summer Term

## DO YOU CARE?



Lots of young people help care for a member of their family who have a disability or health problem

**You are not alone**

*Have some 'me' time*

*Join  
Bexley Grammar  
Young Carers*

Email Mrs Haslam  
haslam\_c@bexleygs.co.uk



## News Items You May Have Missed

### Music News Spring Concert Ticket

Tickets for our Spring Concert on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March are now on sale! It starts at 6.30pm in the School Hall, will feature all the main school ensembles will be a celebration of all the music-making at BGS this term.

Buy your tickets in advance online by clicking on this link :

[Spring Concert Tickets](#)

*Miss Swadkin*



# BGS