



International Day Success!

On Tuesday 26th September, Bexley Grammar School celebrated foreign languages and cultures as part of International Day. Students and staff alike represented a host of different countries by wearing international dress, whilst Years 7-10 enjoyed a variety of special lessons put on for the day. A massive thank you to all staff involved for putting on such varied and interesting lessons, and well done to all students for embracing internationalism so wholeheartedly.

International Day is the high point of the school's annual International Week. All week, students have been registering in different languages, sampling international food in the canteen, as well as taking part in competitions such as the International Bake Off. Don't miss next week's newsletter for more information about all these events!

Mr Gallimore



Year 7- My experience of the Fresher's Fayre

What did you do on Thursday 21st September?

Yesterday I went along to the Fresher's Fayre. The Fayre is an opportunity to find out about different clubs that go on around the school.

What stalls did you visit?

I visited quite a few stalls like the creative writing club which is basically where you develop your writing skills in a fun way. I also visited the Christian union table during this club, you played a game ate some food and prayed. Finally, I visited the Geography table this one is about the earth and things to do with it.

What was your favourite club?

My favourite club was the Japanese club as it was very interesting and sounded quite exciting! Also, I don't really know much about Japan and their cultures so it will be a good opportunity to learn stuff about them.

How did this help you?

It gave me a wider range of activities that I can participate in other than the most obvious ones, e.g. Football, Netball, Music, etc. Going to new clubs will give me the opportunity to get to meet new people.

Finally, I believe the Fresher's Fayre is a really good idea as it helps the Year 7s with the transition.

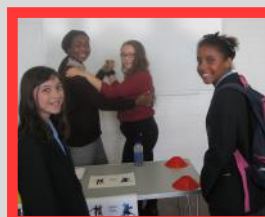
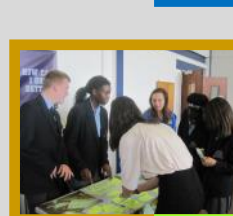
Lily Hewitt, 7MPJ

On Thursday 21st September, our year group was invited to The Fresher's Fair. This is an event set up by the school where students have the chance to join different clubs. It was nice as it reminded me of a marketplace with the stalls that the clubs set up in.

Even though it was about ten minutes, it was a great experience as you got to know the different clubs that take place around the school. There were Geography Club, Japanese Club, Drama Club and many more exciting things for you to sign up to. I signed up to the Creative Writing Club and might be going to Christian Union as these two clubs appealed to me the most.

I definitely think The Fresher's Fayre is a great opportunity to see the clubs of Bexley Grammar and the lovely people in them; I hope that one day, I will have the chance to put up a stall and help others to enjoy their time at Bexley Grammar.

Dezel Doherty, 7MPJ



Library News

National Poetry Day

In Year 7 Library lessons this week we have been discussing National Poetry Day and the theme of 'Freedom'. Students have performed Maya Angelou's poem *Caged Bird*, and discussed how growing up in segregated America influenced her poetry.

The groups then wrote a class poem about freedom, with each student contributing a line. All of the class poems were thoughtfully written, but *A Poem of Freedom* by 7ERR was particularly excellent.

Mrs Carey, Librarian

A Poem of Freedom

A caged heart screams
When no one else hears the cry of help because your
voice is not important.
The storm cloud rains
Inside unclimbable walls.

The free bird thinks of another breeze
The hungry dog searches wildly around his cage for a
scrap of hope.
The sound of a bell releases me from my black abyss
The door opens.
A bird spreading its wings and flying freely
Looks into my soul and sets me free.

A key turns in a lock
The lock falls down with a clatter
The asylum doors finally open,
An open field with no fence.
Finally the book opens and an instrument is played.
The door of the dungeon falls.
The hills rejoice in songs of freedom.
Time for your chance.



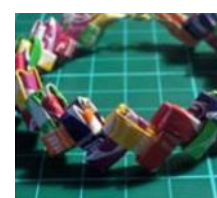
House Harvest Box Competition for Year 7 - 9 Students

In preparation for the competition on Wednesday 4th October, collect your recycled coloured items and give them to your Head of House.

Students from all year groups can donate food items to go into the box to be distributed to local charities.

Mrs Snelling, House Leader

Start collecting your recyclables in your House Colour



Milk bottle tops, plastic bags, odd buttons, old travel tickets, used lottery tickets, guitar picks, sweet wrappers, clean packaging, old circuit board bits...to name a few.

Don't forget to collect food items to go into the boxes



Geography News

Passport to the World KS3 Geography Club

Monday, 3.05 pm - 4.00 pm M17.
Come along and join in with a range of creative activities including model making, games, debate, fact hunting. The club is run by KS3 prefects and aims to be an opportunity to meet new students, engage with new ideas and have fun... plus there are biscuits!

Geography

Geographers: start loving Mondays!

Are you in Y7, 8 or 9?
Want to cheer up your Monday?
Watch world-class Geography films
Play jigsaws and games
Where? M3

Are you in Y10 or 11?
Finding the stress of Mondays too much?
Be mentored and get advice from the experts
Mentor others: how good is your knowledge?
Get ahead on revision!
Where? M17

Are you in Y12 or 13?
Want to get ahead on a Monday?
Mentor Y11
Get experience for your UCAS applications
Make that coursework exceptional
Where? M18/19

I ❤️ MONDAYS

Goscars

The Goscars are returning to Geography... have you impressed one of the judges yet?



GCSE Geography Support

Mondays, 3.05 pm - 4.00 pm, M18.

These sessions are for any student that needs support in Year 11 in the build up to mock examinations and the summer GCSEs.

Mrs Belton, Head of Geography

Lost Property

Reception is already holding pencil cases, water bottles and a few coats, if your child has lost any of these items over the first few weeks of this term please contact us as we may have it.

All enquiries regarding lost property for this term should be emailed to reception@bexleygs.co.uk

Regrettably, we are unable to keep unclaimed articles indefinitely so they will be recycled at the end of the term.

Could you please ensure that all items of clothing and equipment are clearly named so that we can return items to their owners.

Reception



No Pens Day Wednesday 4th October

On Wednesday 4th October students in Year 7 and 8 will be taking part in a National No Pens Day where learning will take place through a variety of speaking and listening activities.

We hope they enjoy their day!

**Miss Ramsden
English
Department**



PE Notices

Year 7 Rugby

From the first few rugby lessons of the year, it appears we have a lot of potential rugby talent among our Year 7 boys. Our first competitive fixture is against Beths on Wednesday the 11th October, and we need to pick a team. We are holding a bonus Year 7 training session and trial on Wednesday 4th October straight after School. Anyone is welcome, regardless of experience. See you there.

Mr Lines, Head of PE



Your PE Department is committed to making sure sport is welcoming of everyone, and we are demonstrating this by wearing rainbow laces in our football boots. Homophobia, biphobia and transphobia remains a big problem in sport. Seven in ten fans have heard homophobic abuse on the football terraces

and shockingly 60 per cent of gay and bi men and 40 per cent of lesbian and bi women expect to experience discrimination if they were to take part in a team sport. Not at BGS, not if we can help it. X

Mr Lines, Head of PE



FOR GIRLS • U13 - U18

BURFORD ACADEMY

GIRLS RUGBY
Open to all clubs & all levels

LOCATION • 9am - 4pm
Dartfordians RFC
Bourne Road
Bexley
KENT
DA5 1LW

DATE • Tuesday 24th October
COST • £35

OUR SESSIONS
• 3 on pitch rugby sessions
• 2 classroom sessions
• FREE Academy T-shirt

BOOK ONLINE / CONTACT US
www.burford12.co.uk
rb@burford12.co.uk



Shooters Hill LTC October Half Term Junior Coaching

All junior tennis players aged **11 - 18 years old** are invited to come along to experience 4 days of intensive drills, up to date technical advice and matchplay experience.

Monday 23rd October to Thursday 26th October
3.30 – 5.30pm

Cost per day is £12 members/£15 non members or
£40 members/£50 non members for all 4 days.

Please book in before **Saturday 21st October** so we can plan and prepare to make the coaching as high quality as possible. If you cannot book before the date please call ahead to check availability.

To book in and arrange payment please contact
Phil Layfield on headcoach@shltc.info or call 07815927767.

Many thanks, Phil and the coaching team
www.shootershilltennisclub.co.uk

News Items You May Have Missed

School Voluntary Fund Contributions

Dear Parents/Carers,

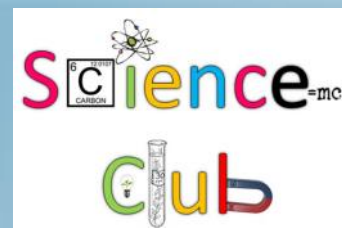
All parents/carers should have received my annual School Voluntary Fund letter, which outlined the considerable reduction in funding we have suffered over the past four years.

I write to mark publically the tremendous response from many of you in contributing, in many cases, well over and above the suggested sum. Thank you for your support. The spending of those contributions will be tightly controlled to ensure the best possible value for money as we fight to preserve the breadth and depth of our curriculum.

For those who have not yet contributed, please visit your ParentPay account where you will see the Voluntary Fund option. There is also a second option available to all parents/carers for any additional contributions which you may wish to make for a specific purpose of your choice in the school.

Again, thank you for your continued support, which is more important and significant to us now than ever before.

Mr Elphick



STEM Club and Science Club started on Monday 25th September, from 3.15pm until 4.15pm.

STEM Club is for Years 8 and 9 students and will be in M7. It will be a fun and creative session combining Science and Design Technology.

Science Club is in M8 for students Year 7. Here you will be able to try out a huge range of fun with hands on experiments.

Both clubs will run every week B.

Ms Lusted, Science Department



**Parents'
Association**

Who are we?

We are a friendly group of parents from all of the school years. We meet once a month to plan fundraising events to provide the school with little extras to enhance our children's education and development.

Events held this Year

- Year 7 Welcome BBQ
- Fashion Show
- Christmas Gift Shop
- Quiz Night
- Easter Gift Shop
- Mothers' Day Gift Shop
- Summer Fayre
- Discounted Adventure Island Tickets
- Monthly Millennium Club Draws

BGS

Macmillan Coffee Morning



We are holding our annual BGS Macmillan Coffee Morning on Monday 2nd October to raise money for this fantastic charity. Homemade cake donations would be greatly appreciated. Cakes can be handed in to reception on the day; please label the cake/containers so that they can be returned to you. There will also be some cakes on sale for students so they may want to bring some small change to school. Thank you for your support.

**Mrs Gradley
School Council Coordinator**

New Year 7 BBQ 29th September 2017 at 7.00pm



The first family event of the Parents' Association calendar and one not to miss! Raffle tickets will be on sale during the night for a chance to win any of our lovely prizes. The deadline to purchase tickets has been extended to **25th September**. Please click [**HERE**](#) to place your order.

We need you!

Our success relies on the support of all parents, even an hour's help whenever you can make all the difference. Whatever time you can give will be appreciated.



Spending

This school year we have:

- Provided Funding of £10k for the new Library
- Provided extra funding for additional shelving
- Purchased Equipment for the Crochet Club
- Purchased Netbooks for SENCO
- Funded outings for the BGS Young Carers Club
- Purchased a speed gun, leg strength dynamometer and other kit for the sports science department
- Provided Funding of £5k for computers in the new development of the Sixth Form Centre
- Replaced computers for those flooded in the Science Lab
- Purchased Mental Health Awareness Literature for the Library

Have you heard about the Millennium Club?

You could win a cash prize. Your share helps fund equipment for the pupils of BGS. Click [**HERE**](#) to find out more.



Events Diary

- **Friday 29th September 7.00pm** ~ Year 7 BBQ
- **Wednesday 11th October 7.30pm** ~ AGM & PA Meeting (tea, coffee & biscuits from 7.00pm)
- **Friday 10th November 7.00pm** ~ Race Night
- **December (TBC)** ~ Xmas Shop/Gift Stall PA Meeting

Click [**HERE**](#) to view our list of up coming events and ticket sales



Contact: parentpabgs@gmail.com

Shop online at <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> select Bexley Grammar School as your cause.

Forthcoming Events

October

Tuesday 3rd ~ Parents' Evening Year 13

Tuesday 10th ~ Parents' Evening Year 11

Monday 16th ~ Work Experience starts for Year 11

Tuesday 17th ~ Open Morning (for new Year 7 Students starting in September 2018)

Wednesday 18th ~ Open Morning & Evening (for new Year 7 Students starting in September 2018)

Early finish at the following times:

~ 1.25pm for students in Years 10, 11 & 13

~ 1.30pm for students in Years 7, 8, 9 & 12

Thursday 19th ~ Every Child Matters (ECM) Day 1

~ Late start for all students at 9.20am following the Open Evening

Friday 20th ~ Last school day before Half Term

Monday 30th ~ First school day after Half Term