



Students Celebrate the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival

If there is a Chinese celebration near one of our Chinese lessons our teacher, Miss Lu, will often arrange for a fun activity during the lesson. On October the 4th we celebrated the Mid-Autumn Festival 中秋节!

To celebrate, we first learned the Chinese myths that surrounded the festival such as Hou Yi the mythical archer that shot nine of the ten suns to regain peace on earth. We also learned how to sing the famous traditional song 'Yue liang dai biao wo de xin 月亮代表我的心' which translated to 'The moon represents my heart'. We also learned a bit of Chinese culture in the form of poetry, across China Li Bai 李白 is very well known to have written a very famous piece of poetry that honours the Moon Cake Festival It is called 'Jing Ye Shi' or 'Quiet Night Thoughts' 静夜思.

Finally, our teacher taught us how to make simple Chinese celebration Mooncakes that are often eaten at this festival. To make them we used cupcakes that we condensed into moulds that we then compressed to leave an imprint upon the cupcakes. Once popping them out of the mould they had a beautiful pattern on the top. In addition, we learned that in China they traditionally eat Mooncake and round fruits such as oranges or watermelon as this symbolises wholeness.

Catherine Hibbs 9JCM



China Trip

For current students in Years 10 - 12

The Modern Languages Department would like to open up the invitation to all current Year 10 - 12 students who would like to join the trip to China from 18th to 27th July 2018. The trip itinerary includes:

Beijing: Days 1 - 3

Depart UK on 18th July 2018

Day 1: 19th July 2018

Beijing Arrival (L/D) B: Breakfast
L: Lunch D: Dinner

Pick up at airport and transfer to Hotel. Afternoon, we will visit Prince Gong mansion. Have Beijing Roast duck as welcome dinner. Evening activity: Acrobatic show.

Day 2: 20th July 2018

Beijing (B/L/D)
Full day trip to the Great Wall Mutianyu Section (Cable car included) and Olympic Stadium (outside)

Day 3: 21st July 2018

Beijing (B/L/D)
Full day trip to the Tiananmen Square, The Forbidden City, Jingshan Park and Summer Palace. Evening activity: Kungfu show.

Xi'an: Days 4 - 6

Day 4: 22nd July 2018

Beijing - Xi'an (B/L/D) Morning, Visit Temple of Heaven in Beijing. After lunch, take high speed train to Xi'an. Arrive Xi'an, be transferred to the hotel.

Day 5: 23rd July 2018

Xi'an (B/L/D)
Xi'an city tour: Bell Tower and Drum Tower Plaza, The Big Wild Goose Pagoda, Ancient City Wall, Shaanxi History Museum and Muslim Quarter.

Day 6: 24th July 2018

Xi'an - Shanghai (B/L/D)
We will visit the Terra-Cotta Warriors and Horses and Emperor Qinshihuang Mausoleum. After tour, be transferred to the train station for overnight train to Shanghai. (Soft sleepers, 4 per cabin)

Shanghai: Days 7 - 8

Day 7: 25th July 2018

Shanghai Arrival (B/L/D)
Arrive Shanghai, be met and transferred to hotel to have a rest. Then we start today's city tour. We will visit Yu Garden, Tianzifang, 100th floor SWFC Observatory, Old French Concession & Old Street and Bund.

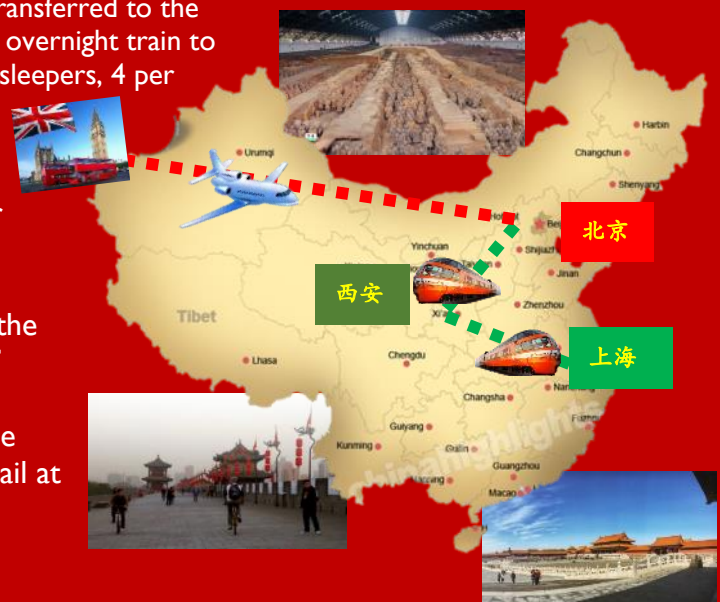
Day 8: 26th July 2018

Shanghai - Suzhou (B/L/D)
Full day trip to Suzhou: Lingering Garden, Tiger Hill and Grand Canal.

27th July 2018 Shanghai Exit (B)
Be transferred to the airport for the flight back home.

This promises to be an incredible opportunity for anyone interested in Chinese culture, or simply travelling - students do not need to be studying Chinese in order to partake. The trip will cost in the region of £1909.22 for everything. **A deposit of £350.00** must be paid online via ParentPay by Friday 20th October. Please contact the Finance Office to add your child's name to this trip or email at bgstrips@bexleygs.co.uk

Mrs Lu, Modern Foreign Languages



My time at Bexley Grammar ... so far

Some of our Year 7s have been helping with the Open Day Edition of the weekly newsletter. They have been telling us about their experiences and offering friendly advice to prospective Year 7 pupils hoping to join BGS next year.

Click [here](#) to read their stories and also Mr Elphick's Open Day message to Year 6 pupils.

My time at Bexley Grammar ... so far

I have coped well, moving from primary to secondary school. I have become more independent and I have learnt to become more organised. I have made many friends and I have joined many fun clubs. I have enjoyed my time at BGS, so far and I am sure I will in the future. I feel like I have really settled in!



The thing I was most worried about was making friends. However, on my first day, I realised that I did not have to worry. There are many people in my form, making it almost impossible for me not to make friends. If you are worried about making friends, like I was, all you have to do is be yourself and people will like you for who you are. Another thing I was worried about was getting lost. However, on the first day, I was given a map and many friendly students and teachers were happy to help. My advice is: if you do get lost do not be afraid to ask a teacher or student; you will find them very helpful!

Amelia Scanlon, Year 7

The Good Samaritans

Two Year 12 students recently brought tremendous credit to their school: when an elderly couple had a nasty fall nearby, **Gideon Coker and Matteo Brickle** came to their aid. They comforted the couple, sent for an ambulance and stayed with them, making them as comfortable as possible.

On Monday, 9th October Mr Goddard (who is 90) came into school to thank personally Gideon and Matteo; Mrs Goddard is still in hospital recovering from a broken hip, but also sent her warmest thanks. Mrs Beasley arranged flowers to be sent on behalf of the school.

Well done, boys!

Mr Morris, Assistant Head

Library News

Book Donations A Huge Thank You

Thank you to all of the students that have donated their books to the Library. I've been overwhelmed by the generosity of our students, and most of the books have already been borrowed. I would like to say a special thank you to Daniel and Joseph Tye, who have donated a staggering 100 books, and were kind enough to box them up and bring them all in. I already have a group of Year 7 students, offering to help me label them so that they can borrow them as soon as possible.

If any other students have books that they would like to donate to the Library we will always take more!

The most popular series are:

Alex Rider - Anthony Horowitz
 CHERUB - Robert Muchamore
 The Maze Runner - James Dashner
 The Hunger Games - Suzanne Collins
 GONE - Michael Grant
 Artemis Fowl - Eoin Colfer
 Divergent - Veronica Roth
 Mortal Instruments - Cassandra Clare
 Noughts and Crosses - Malorie Blackman
 Zom-B - Darren Shan
 Maximum Drive - James Patterson
 Harry Potter – J.K. Rowling

Thank you

Mrs Carey, School Librarian



Music Department Notices

Wednesday 1st November - Year 7 Concert, 4.30pm

This concert will involve the whole of the Year 7 cohort performing just 8 weeks after they joined the school!

Come and hear our Year 7 Music groups singing songs they have learned, and some of the Year 7 musicians perform as soloists!

Year 7 students who want to play a solo should sign up ASAP at:

<http://www.bgsperformingarts.com/y7-concert-2017.html>

Tickets will be available to buy only on the door - they cost £3 and £2 concessions.

Wednesday 22nd November - KS5 Showcase, 6.00pm

An opportunity for our oldest musicians to perform as soloists, in chamber groups and hear some of our ensembles.

Come and enjoy some amazing music from our talented IB and A-Level musicians as they record solos for their Performance Portfolios.

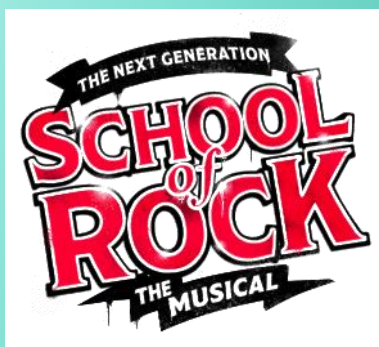
Tickets will be available to buy only on the door - they cost £3 and £2 concessions.

SCHOOL OF ROCK Auditions

Auditions for anyone who wants to be in the cast will be Friday 10th November at 3.05pm in the Hall. You don't need to be able to play an instrument to be in the musical! If you do, though, and you want to audition for one of the playing-instrument roles, please audition by video.

All information can be found at:

<http://www.bgsperformingarts.com/schoolofrock.html>



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Advance notice of a date for your diaries!

The School Christmas Concert, featuring all the main school ensembles will take place on **Tuesday 5th December at 6.00pm** in the Hall. Tickets will be available to buy in advance online - more information after half-term.

Playing: Junior Orchestra, Symphony Orchestra, Junior Jazz, Big Band Theory, Improv Group, Junior Choir, Senior Choir, Junior Chamber Choir, Chamber Choir, Clarinet Choir, Brass Group and KS4 Ensemble.

Miss Swadkin
Head of Music

The Young Enterprise Induction Meeting



Young enterprise is an amazing entrepreneurial opportunity for school children in London, which allows them to set up and run a (hopefully!) lucrative business. Five members of The Bexley Grammar Young Enterprise Team had the opportunity to attend the Young Enterprise Induction Meeting at Southbank University on Monday 3rd October. After two train journeys and a quick hot chocolate stop, we found our way to the university and were the first school to take our seats. We spoke with our regional director Angie and listened to an in depth talk of what the Young Enterprise Company Programme would involve. As well as hearing about: the rules, ways to succeed and advice, we also got to hear from the winners of last year (who had created a waterproof notepad). Their main piece of advice was to notice a problem and create a product that would fix the problem (theirs being that when their coaches were taking notes for their rowing team, rain would smudge or tear the paper, of course we have ALL been there...). Since then we have discussed ways in which our team could raise the £500 needed to enter the competition and it really started to put the scheme into perspective. Overall, as we are about to begin this challenging journey, our team stands strong and united, we have organised our first fundraising event (a classic bake sale on Friday!) and we hope that our excitement and eagerness continue to grow.

Charlotte Russo, Year 12

PE News

Our year 7 rugby team got off to a flyer - beating Beths GS 30-0 in their first match. For 13 of the 16 players it was their first Rugby game ever! The secret? Epic tackling and some great tries from Joseph, Dayo and two each from Ceejay and Jonathan. Well done gents!



Mr Lines, PE Department



Year 11 Work Experience



Good luck to all Year 11 students embarking on their work experience placements from Monday 16th October 2017.

I am pleased you are able to develop your skills in an area that is of interest to you. I am sure you will represent Bexley Grammar School well and hope you make excellent use of the opportunity by having a productive placement.

If you have any concerns during your placements, please do not hesitate to contact me, Mrs Aspill or Miss Scott.
Mr Mackle

Mr A Mackle
Director of Studies, Year 11



BGS CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EVENING



We are hosting a Christmas Shopping Evening on Thursday 23rd November 2017 from 7.00pm

If you are a local craft company, small business etc. looking to raise your profile and sell merchandise before Christmas then please do contact the Parents' Association via email at parentpabgs@gmail.com For those who fancy doing some shopping that night please watch this space for further updates, we promise an array of stalls and an opportunity to purchase unique, affordable gifts before Christmas



Passport to the World

Passport to the World, Geography Club, has started the new school year with a hive of creative activities taking place in M19.

So far we have made origami Himalayan Mountains with juicy geographical facts, begun designing new games and this year's paper mache balloons are hanging up ready for painting next week.

If you would like to come and join in the fun... and eat the odd biscuit or two come to M19 at 3.05pm on Mondays.

All year groups welcome.

Mrs Belton, Head of Geography

Forthcoming Events

October

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