

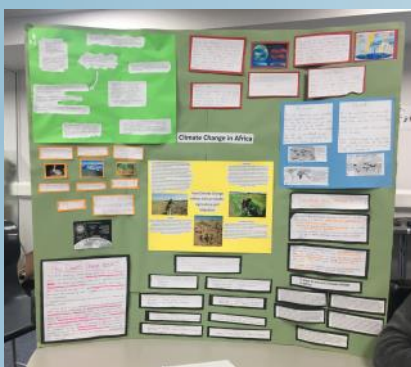


IB Students participate in the Group 4 Project

Year 12 IB students, spent ECM day on preparing their Group 4 project. This year the overall theme was on Global Climate Change. Each group consisted of a student from Computer Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Sports Science, Environmental Science and D & T. The students spent the entire day collaborating to create a presentation on how to deal with Climate Change in a specific region. The students presented their projects on Tuesday October 31.



Mr Ward, Head of KS5 Physics



The Group 4 Project

The Group 4 Project is a crucial part of the International Baccalaureate. Group 4 consists of many different Sciences out of which IB students normally take one or two. The main aim of the project is for students to work in a multidisciplinary way to demonstrate the idea of the necessity of Science and to have a global understanding about the need for all the different Sciences when making choices.

There are 3 phases of the Group 4 Project:

Phase I – The Planning Phase

During this stage we were placed into groups of 5-6 and in each of our groups we would have a mixture of people based on the different Sciences that they studied. We were all given the topic 'Climate Change' and our aim was to plan how we would cope/adapt/combat the negative consequences of climate change. Every person in the group had to contribute based on their specific scientific knowledge. We were then set homework to research and gather the required information for our final idea and plan what we would do for phase 2.





Phase 2 – The Action Phase

On this day we had to share all the information we collected from our individual research and then split the work between us, making sure we were all responsible for a certain part. Sharing the workload allowed my group to optimise the time we had and to further demonstrate positive collaboration. My group also planned to make a model, which we couldn't do on the day, but Nicole and I finished it over the half term.

At the end of phase 2, I realised that the Group 4 project wasn't about the actual outcome, but about the process of reaching the end and how well we could work with each other throughout the project.

Phase 3 – The Reporting Phase

This is the last phase where we are given time to present all the information that we have collected. We are asked to explain our research and expand upon the contributions we made towards the project. In addition, we will be asked to answer questions based on the knowledge we have gained and our experience of the Group 4 Project!

Isha Shrestha, Year 12



Year 11 Work Experience (Monday 16th October - Friday 27th October 2017)

Miss Scott and I are extremely proud to report back on what amazing jobs the Year 11 pupils did on their Work Experience Placements. After many employers were keen to keep hold of them, we were pleased to see all the pupils return to Bexley Grammar School for the next phase of their GCSE studies.

The feedback from employers has been incredibly positive about the Year 11 pupils with many commending them for their punctuality, smartness, politeness and general work ethic. Pupils were praised for their maturity with employers shocked at their ages and ability to use their own initiative and adapt to the demands of the working environment. Employers have been quick to express their desire to have Bexley Grammar School pupils working with them in the future.

Placements were diverse and ranged from local Primary Schools to Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity to FI Williams Racing Team. Pupils will be using their completed Work Experience diaries at the next ECM Day in November to further discuss the opportunity each pupil had, as well as the skills developed whilst on their placements.

My thanks goes out to all parents for their support, especially to those who assisted their son/daughter in finding a placement through the use of their own employers, family and friends. I would also like to thank Bexley Grammar School staff, specifically Mrs C Aspill and Ms J Caley-Gardiner. This opportunity would not be possible without their dedication and hard work in assisting the pupils as they initially apply for placements, then liaising with parents and employers to ensure that all the necessary paperwork is in place prior to the placement starting.

Finally, I would like to congratulate the pupils themselves who proved such a credit to Bexley Grammar School. I am sure that the experience was beneficial and you have taken a lot from your first opportunity to demonstrate the wealth of talent you have to offer employers.

Mr Mackle, Director of Studies, Year 11

Well done!

House Drama 2017

The House Drama competition was held on Wednesday 10th October during the school day. Students had clearly spent a long time planning and rehearsing their plays under the leadership of the House Captains as all six entries were of a very high standard. It was good to see students of all ages taking part with some of the lead roles being given to students in year 7 and 8, fantastic news for the future of the Drama competition. The results and a few comments about each House as follows:



6th Johnson – ‘Arnie’ a take on ‘Annie’. An orphanage in New York is run by Miss Hannigan. Arnie (one of the orphans) believes that his parents left him there by mistake... The judges liked the way the stage was set, that the diction was clear throughout, that it had an appropriate interpretation of the characters and that there had clearly been lots of rehearsing and preparation. **Marks 17/24 plus 2 for 6th place. Total 19 marks.**

5th Wellman – Entitled: Pressure, Stress and Drugs. ‘The play was about a girl struggling with her day to day life, causing her to make a silly decision and turn to drugs to help comfort her or so she thought. The play showed the effects of drugs on health, friendship and family life. We wanted to convey this message clearly to the audience to get them thinking and urging them not to make the same mistake as Elizabeth.’ The judges commented on the excellent stage craft, smooth transitions, and clear, effective diction. The fact that it was quite emotional was a brave choice as it didn’t rely on humour and pace. **Marks 18/24 plus 4 for 5th place. Total 22 marks.**

4th Collins – Forrest Gump: a stage adaptation of the academy award winning classic, Forrest Gump. Whilst slightly retold for the stage, the story follows the life a mentally deficient man and the overcoming of his disability. This piece had strong energy from the performers, it was a professional and a tight performance with some imaginative war locations. **Marks 19/24 plus 6 for 4th place. Total 25 marks.**

3rd Mabbs – A take on The Wizard of Oz. Looking at this well-known story in a completely different way – Dorothy Gale, held on trial for the murder of the Wicked Witch of the West and the kidnap of the Tin Man, Scarecrow and the Lion, the case proceeds to its inevitable climax! A thoroughly enjoyable piece very well done and well thought out with excellent diction, imaginative costumes, a tight chorus and excellent acting by the lead roles. Perfect professionalism and loads of energy. **Marks 20/24 plus 8 for 3rd place. Total 28 marks.**

2nd Kirkman – ‘Dear Evan Hansen’ is a story of a boy unable to figure out his place in the world. He spins a web of lies surrounding the death of a fellow student in order to help his grieving family, as well as help himself become more popular. Our play is the story of these lies, unravelling, and is a cautionary tale to just be yourself, not matter what people may think; the alternative may cause more harm than good. The judges thought that this was a well-adapted, performed and effective piece of theatre. Everyone clearly knew what they should be doing, they stayed in character and made good use of the space. The pace was appropriately slow and held together by the chorus. The acting was fantastic; a very relatable and touching piece. **Marks 23/24 plus 10 for 2nd place. Total 33 marks.**

1st Prothero – Goldilocks and the Three Practitioners. ‘In our play we attempted to put a spin on the classic children’s story and perform every scene in the style of a different dramatic practitioner. Needless to say we used a lot more than three, including physical theatre, pantomime and traditional naturalism. The Judges commented on the extremely ambitious production, which showcased seven types of theatre, very clever and very well done. The many different styles of acting were clearly demonstrated to a very high standard by all, the Chorus and leads alike with some amusing takes on the well-known archetypes. The pace was just right, it was tight and flowed smoothly with clear and precise diction. It had simple but excellent makeup and costumes; overall an excellent production which was very entertaining. **Marks 24/24 plus 12 for 1st place. Maximum 36 marks.**

This year the judges were Mrs Bono, Mr Bain and Mr Otley (Head of Drama). They all agreed that it was a shame to have to rank the performances and that everyone should be very proud of what they had achieved with only a few weeks’ preparation: the standard was exceptionally high this year.

Mrs Snelling, House Leader

Music Department Notices

School of Rock Auditions

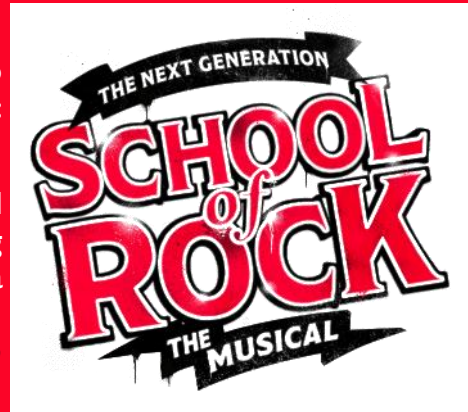
There is a general audition for **EVERYBODY** who wants to be in the cast on **FRIDAY 10th November: 3.05pm-5.00pm** in the **HALL**.

Please wear loose, comfy clothing suitable for moving, and bring trainers/dance shoes. Be prepared to learn a **song & some movement** & then **perform** it, and **read a scene** with a group. ***This is compulsory for everyone, irrespective of which part you would like to audition for!***

There are lots of parts for students of all ages. **You do not need to be able to play an instrument to be in the cast.**

If you want to also audition for a character who also plays an instrument, please see <http://www.bgsperformingarts.com/schoolofrock> for more information about this process.

Callbacks for principal roles will be the following week. Any questions please ask Miss Swadkin!



Year 7 Concert Review - 1st November

On the 1st November, the Year 7 cohort kicked off the Music Department concert season in style with a brilliant concert, which featured every single member of the year group demonstrating the singing technique and songs they had learned in their first half-term at BGS.

Some highlights were classes, singing Mamma Mia, Rhythm of Life and Revolting Children from 'Matilda'. We were also treated to solos from 17 brave individuals, playing music on a range of instruments and styles, from piano, flute, bassoon to singing and guitar! Congratulations to all our brave soloists (pictured below).



We are so thrilled to have so many musical students in Year 7, and are so pleased that they have really thrown themselves into musical activities at school. Anyone in year 7 (or any other year for that matter) who wants to get involved in a musical ensemble, it's not too late! Come along in January to one of our choirs, orchestras or bands. We look forward to welcoming more Year 7s to join our extra-curricular ensembles next term, and congratulate them all on a fantastic performance!

Many thanks in particular to Mrs Eacott and Miss Radzvilaitė for their hard work in coaching the classes and developing their singing technique, and huge thanks to our amazing music prefects who worked so hard to support us this afternoon (by organising the year 7 students, supporting performances, page turning and accompanying the class songs). Teshan, Heather, Lizzie, George (Year 13), Sam (Year 12) and Rhys and Seb (Year 9) - THANK YOU!

Lastly, thank you to all the parents and staff who came to support the performers; we raised a massive £500 towards our fundraising campaign for new practice rooms!

Miss Swadkin, Head of Music

On Sale Now

Tickets for the Christmas Concert (Tuesday 5th December) and the Music Department Quiz Night (Saturday 3rd February) are on sale now. Please click on the link to purchase your tickets

<https://yourboxoffice.co.uk/events?search=bexley>.

Thank you Mrs Steele and the wonderful Parents' Association team!

Mrs Steele has this term completed her three years as Chair of the Parents' Association and we would like to thank her for her passion, energy and drive. She has brought her own style to the role and to the way that the Parents' Association work (providing tea and cakes at meetings is always welcome!).

The Summer Fayre has grown steadily as a result of the energy generated by the Parent Association team as has the number of events that take place. The funds that are raised at these events are a crucial support in enabling us to provide the best education for our students and are equally important in promoting the family ethos of the school.

We currently have the strongest, most energetic and the largest Parents' Association in the recent history of the school and Mrs Steele's dedication has helped to promote this. We would like to take this opportunity to also thank all the members of the Parents' Association team for the time and energy that they give to supporting our community. Everyone's efforts are hugely appreciated.

Mrs Sword, Assistant Head



PA Race Night

Friday 10th November 2017

Doors open at 7.00pm for a

7.30pm start

Entry

£2.00 adult

£1.00 child

Click [here](#) to book your tickets



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 parentabgs@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



Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist* - School Play

We are very excited to announce that tickets will be available in the next Newsletter. Act fast and grab one of the best seats - this is a great chance to see the wonderful new K10 Theatre and our fantastically talented pupils. Just keep your eyes out for pickpockets... We look forward to seeing you there!

An illustration of Mr. Bumble, a large man in a blue coat and red waistcoat, holding a cane, and Oliver Twist, a small boy in a brown suit, walking together on a path. A dark purple oval graphic is overlaid on the right side of the illustration, containing the title 'Oliver Twist' in a decorative font, followed by 'Charles Dickens' and 'Adapted by Neil Bartlett' in smaller text.

Oliver
Twist

Charles Dickens
Adapted by Neil Bartlett

7.00pm

Thursday 30th November, Friday 1st December
Monday 4th December

News Items You May Have Missed

Library News

Reading Group

The PA have generously given me money to run a reading group for the Trinity Schools Book Award. This will involve weekly meetings where we read and discuss seven carefully chosen books in this year's theme of 'A New World'.

Students taking part in the group will be able to write reviews and take part in fun activities, and they will also attend the TSBA awards ceremony in March, during which they will be able to meet three of the authors. You can find more information about the award here: <http://tsba.edublogs.org/>.

The reading group is open to all book lovers from Year 7 and 8. Please come to the Library to sign up and let me know which days you are free after school. We will run the reading group on the day that most students can attend.

Thanks,

Mrs Carey, School Librarian



Forthcoming Events

November

Tuesday 21st ~ Sixth Form Open Evening (Internals)

Wednesday 22nd ~ KS5 Showcase 6.00pm (see Music notice)

Monday 27th ~ ECM Day 2

Thursday 30th ~ Oliver Production 7.00pm (see notice)

December

Friday 1st ~ Oliver Production 7.00pm (see notice)

Monday 4th ~ Oliver Production 7.00pm (see notice)

Tuesday 5th ~ Christmas Concert 6.00pm (see Music notice)

Friday 8th ~ Closing date for Sixth Form applications

Thursday 14th ~ Christmas Dinner in the canteen

Wednesday 20th ~ Last Day of the Autumn Term

January 2018

Wednesday 3rd ~ Inset Day (School Closed to Students)

Thursday 4th ~ Inset Day (School Closed to Students)

Friday 5th ~ Inset Day (School Closed to Students)

Monday 8th ~ First School day after the Christmas holiday