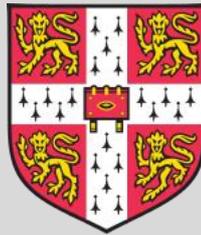




Oxbridge success again!

I am delighted to announce that ten students, (seven students from the current Year 13 and three students from last year) have received offers from Oxford and Cambridge Universities. These are remarkable successes - congratulations to the following students:

- Sarah Cotter (IB, MFL - Oxford)
- Liliana Hennessy (IB, MFL - Oxford)
- Molly Johnson (IB, English - Oxford)
- Sophie King (AL, History - Cambridge)
- Nana Kwarteng (IB, Architecture - Cambridge)
- Sapphira McBride (IB, Psychology - Oxford)
- Eris Nishku (IB, MFL - Oxford)
- Ruth Osagiator-Obode (AL, last year, Economics - Oxford)
- Menaka Santhakumar (AL last year, Medicine - Oxford)
- Amelia Stevenson (IB last year, Classics - Cambridge).



I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Stoddard for her tireless commitment to the Oxbridge programme in school. She has a wonderful team, of course, but I would like to acknowledge her personal investment and expertise in this extremely competitive process which enables our students to access such prestigious opportunities.

Mr Elphick

Year 11 Language students attend King's College London Workshop

On Thursday 11th January, a group of Year 11 language students, including myself, were privileged enough to have been selected to attend the Our Business is Languages workshop, which was held at King's College London. The event, which was wonderfully organised by the MFL department, consisted of various business simulations, including talks from Commerzbank, Barclays and the BBC, all of which were both insightful and engaging.



I felt particularly lucky to have listened to Hugh Sykes (a journalist at the BBC) who recounted his many experiences abroad, and how he has used languages throughout his career. As part of this he recounted tales from his reporting time in Russia just after the collapse of communism. Being a Russian student myself, I really empathised with Mr Sykes and took a real interest in the events he recalled. After a very enriching day I can definitely say that my love for languages has grown and that I am looking forward to using my languages in the future, both here at Bexley Grammar and beyond.



Reme Maton, Year 11



Young Enterprise visit to Citibank

The directors of this years Young Enterprise team went on a visit to Citibank in Canary Wharf to discuss our product. These were Cezara Olaru, Alex Cockburn, Timi Akinsola, David Jones, Codie Jones and Kokulan Thangasuthan. We met two business men as well as a young enterprise regional manager to discuss our product and brand. They loved our 'Pro-Portion' brand name and the 'Smart Shaker' product. They helped us by giving ideas about the prototype, how to manufacture the product and they knew about the market. It was very interesting meeting them and it definitely made us more motivated to make the product the best it could be and think about expanding the brand as well. Look out for the Smart Shaker on sale soon!



Codie Jones, Year 12



PE News

Kent cup finalists! Well done to the Second XI for a terrific 3-0 semi-final win over Dover GS on Saturday morning. It was a superb performance and we can't wait for the final. Details to follow when the venue etc. is confirmed.

Mr Lines, Head of PE



Bexley Literary Festival 10th - 24th February 2018

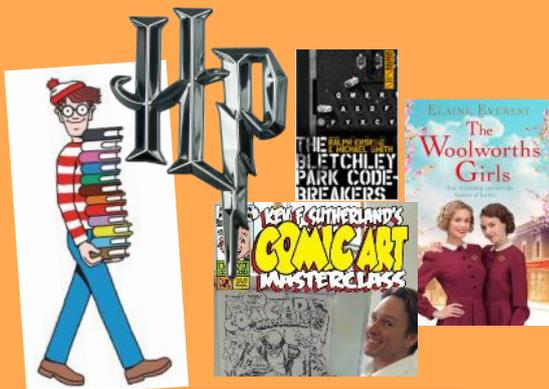
The festival includes lots of free events for children and adults of all ages, ranging from creative writing workshops and talks from authors, to poetry spins, comic books groups and drama clubs.

The full programme is available by clicking on the link:

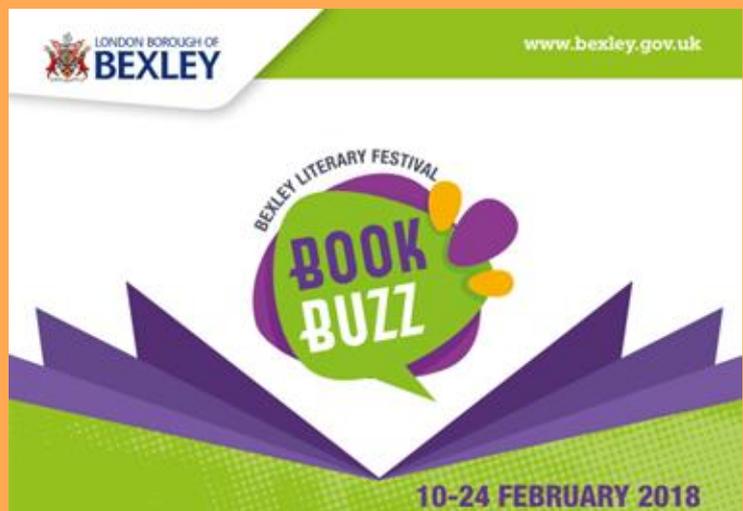
<https://arena.yourlondonlibrary.net/documents/85499/9143401/BexLitFest+A6+brochureWEBSMALLx.pdf/80b4442c-5f9e-42a4-bd95-bef3b2864adf>

Free tickets can be booked by clicking on the link: www.bexleylibraries.eventbrite.com

Mrs Carey, School Librarian

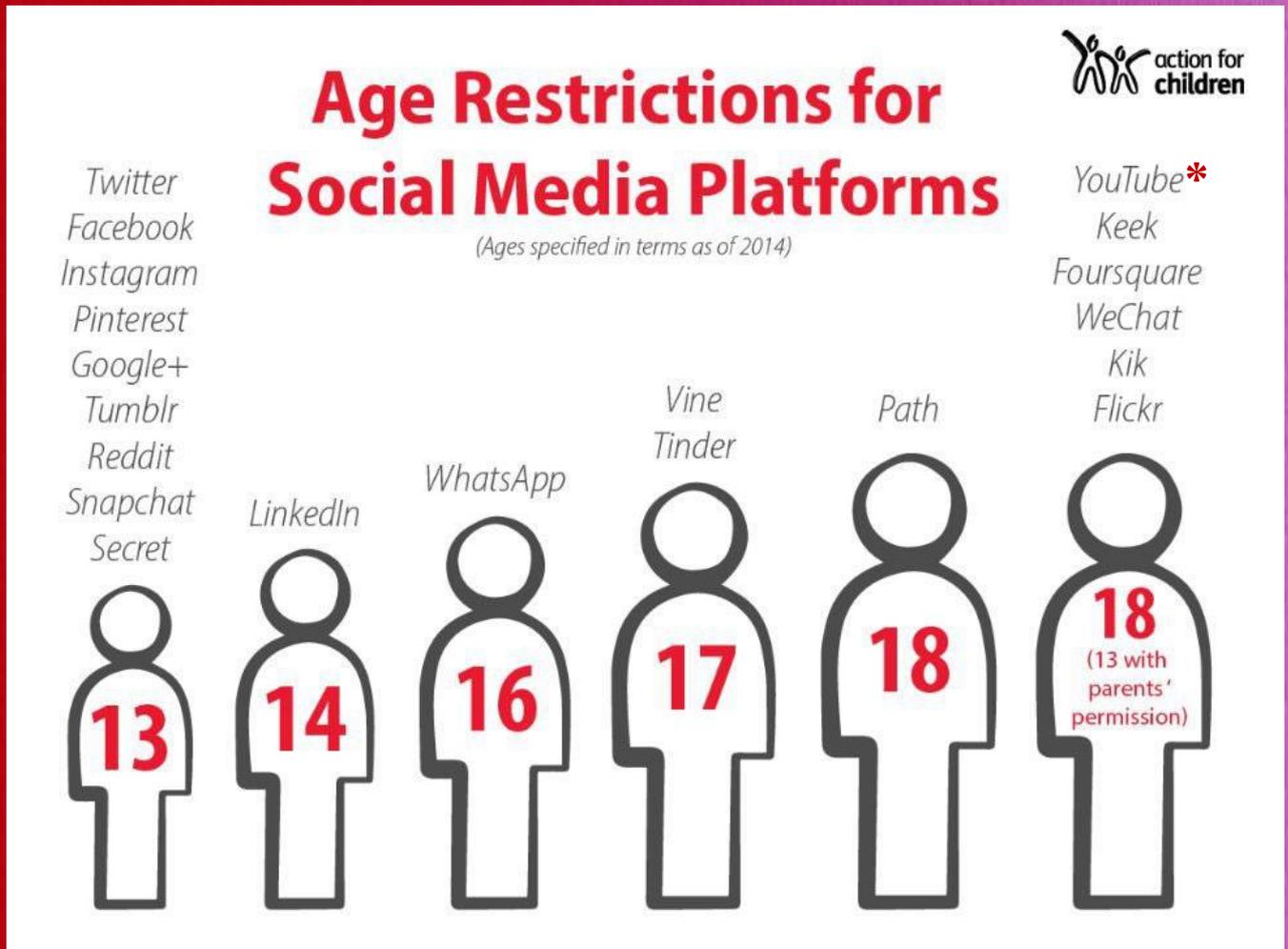


The Jane Austen Society
of the United Kingdom



E-Safety Notice for parents/carers

Please be aware when you are allowing children to use social media sites that there are age restrictions on what they are allowed to access. The graphic below may offer helpful clarification:



The Bexley Grammar School e-Safety policy (available via the school website's policies page) offers guidance for both students and parents around the area of e-Safety. The NSPCC website is also a good source of guidance and information.

*18 is the age requirement for Youtube account holders, 13 for account holders with their parent's permission.

Mr H J Gilmore, Deputy Head

Music Fundraising Update

We have now got a Justgiving account set up! Please share this address with friends and family and help us reach our target by the end of this year <https://www.justgiving.com/campaigns/charity/bexleygrammarschool/music>



Would any enterprising students / families like to support our Campaign by organising a fundraising event (e.g. a sponsored event, a bake sale, wash cars etc.)? You can do this via Justgiving by clicking on the 'Start fundraising' button on the page above to link your fundraising to our campaign.

Upcoming events...

You can support our GCSE Musicians in their first public performances on Thursday 1st February, in the Hall at 6.00pm. Buy tickets on the door (£3/£2), and enjoy cakes by talented Sixth Formers who are raising money for their World Challenge expedition.

A reminder that our **Quiz Night** takes place on **Saturday 3rd February at 7.00pm**. You are welcome to buy tickets as individuals, in small groups or to book a complete table of eight tickets. Tickets are £5 each. The Quiz will start at 7.15pm, please arrive from 7pm. The evening is open to friends and family and we are hoping for a full house on the night. Please bring your own refreshments and any donations of raffle prizes will be greatly appreciated.

You can buy tickets online at

<https://yourboxoffice.co.uk/bexley-grammar-school/255-music-dept-quiz-night> or email Miss Swadkin swadkin_l@bexleygs.co.uk to reserve a table/seats and pay on the night.

Miss Swadkin, Head of Music



Plonk & Presents

Donation Request

Are you taking on the Dry January challenge, decided on a healthy start to the New Year and need to get rid of all temptation that stands in your way?



Any Christmas gifts you received that are 'surplus' to your requirements? Too many socks, perfume that's not quite you or your bathroom cupboard is overflowing with bath bombs?



If you have unopened bottles of alcohol or unwanted gifts that you'd like to donate, we'll be happy to take them off you to be used as prizes for fund raising events and the summer fair.



Please send any of your donations to the BGS PA through the School Office. If you prefer to hand them directly to the PA, please do come along to our next meeting on Wednesday 24th January or contact

parentpabgs@gmail.com to arrange delivery or possible collection.

Thank you, BGS PA

News Items You May Have Missed

Headteacher's Notices

Two post-Christmas appeals and a notification regarding the Metropolitan Police.

1. Notification of Information Sharing Agreement between the Metropolitan Police and Bexley Schools.

Bexley Grammar School has signed an information-sharing agreement with the Bexley Borough Metropolitan Police under which Project Tearose will disclose domestic incidents to the Safeguarding Officer in school where BGS children are involved and at risk. The content shared will be kept to the minimum, enough for the school to ensure the safety of the child. Bexley Grammar School has a duty to inform parents of this information sharing agreement.

2. Appeal for computers.

Have you upgraded this Christmas? In school we can operate relatively old-spec computers effectively in areas that are not graphic-heavy. If you have a computer with the following minimum specifications which you no longer need, BGS could put it to good use for students and staff.

Equally, if any parents are linked with businesses which upgrade their hardware regularly, we would be very grateful for any donations of 'old' computers.

Minimum specification = i5 processor or equivalent and a minimum of 4G RAM.



3. Appeal for board games.

Do you have any old board games that you need to clear out to make way for the new? Our lunchtime Games Club (which is especially popular in the cold weather) would love to expand its repertoire!



If you have computers or board games please email: enquiries@bexleygs.co.uk

Thank you, *Mr Elphick*

Forthcoming Events

January

Wednesday 24th ~ ECM Day

February

Saturday 3rd ~ Music Department Quiz Night 7.00pm (See Music Notice)

Tuesday 6th ~ Year 9 Parents' Evening

Monday 12th to Friday 16th ~ Half Term

Monday 19th ~ First School day after Half Term