



Oliver Twist 1 Week to go!

Christmas Drama Production of *Charles Dickens' Oliver Twist*

Ladies and Gentlemen! Step right up, for the wondrous K10 Theatre is being opened for public performances by presenting Neil Bartlett's adaptation of the classic: *Charles Dickens' Oliver Twist*. It is filled with all the Street Urchins, Musical Hall performance, Victoriana and pickpocketing you'd expect! But there is more: Marvel at the incredible lighting effects afforded to us in the new space; enjoy the amazing tiered seating; sample the delightful themed treats in the interval (Artful Jammy Dodger, anyone?) all presented with the physical theatre and ensemble movement you've come to expect from a BGS school play!

All the Light Design, Sound Design, Costume Design, Musical Composition and a great deal of the direction and choreography has come from pupils at the school. This is a wonderful chance to celebrate the amazing talents of the pupils at the school.

Thursday 30th November, 7.30pm.

Friday 1st December will be a special gala performance to open the K10 Theatre officially (arrive early for a short reception) 7.00pm.

Monday 4th December will include a celebration of the pupils' work after the show, including some awards and brief speeches 7.30pm.



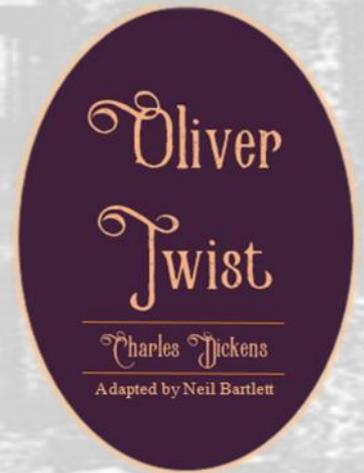
Act fast as we expect this fundraising event to sell out quickly (especially the Friday night)!

Tickets for this Bexley Grammar School Drama Department Fundraising Event cost £8.50 (adults) and £6 (concessions), and are available in advance only. Click [here](#) to purchase your tickets.

Please note - the play is in the R10 Theatre and not the Hall, as in previous years. Please enter the school through the top gate/top car park nearest the roundabout, and walk down to the K block entrance at the end of the car park.

Drama Department and the Production Team

Click [here](#) to view the Oliver Twist trailer created by Katherine Bezzing, Chloe Doming, Chelsy Goodrich and Ijaz Fayaz.



Exams



Year 11 & Year 13 Students

Please click on the links below to view the Year 11 and Year 13 (IB) Mock Exam Timetables, December 2017.

[Year 11 Mock Exams Timetable - Dec 2017](#)

[Year 13 Mock IB Exams Timetable - Dec 2017](#)

Bexley Grammar School



Year 11
Preparing for Revision
2017 – 2018

Click [here](#) to view the Year 11 Revision Booklet

My Family in WWI

In World War One, three of my great great uncles signed up in the rush to fight the Germans, they fought for their king and country. Alfred, Horace and Wilfred Seath were all brothers and lived in a small house at 24 Ardmore Road, Hither Green. My great great great grandma was so proud of her sons, but once she found out that two of them Alfred and Walter were “killed in action” (Alfred on 21st August 1917, and Walter on 13th November 1917), she wrote a letter to King George V, asking if they could send her dear Horace home, as he was too young to even be fighting in the war. Her son was killed a few days after she sent the letter, on 22nd August 1918 - he was only 19.

Alfred and Walter were both sergeants in the war, and Horace was a private. One of my great great uncles, Alfred, is buried and has a known grave at Bluet Farm, where we went to Ypres on the History trip this year. It was really nice going to a place of resting for a relative that you know so much about, but never met. Alfred was only 24 years of age when he passed away on Tuesday, 21st August 1917.

Emily Ross, Year 9



Sixth Form Japan Day at SOAS (The School of Oriental & African Studies) University of London

Students of our IB Japanese Beginners Course attended a special event held at SOAS on 9th November. All the students that were attending the trip first met at Charing Cross Station so that Mrs Everett (our Japanese teacher) could guide us to SOAS University of London. We walked the whole journey from Charing Cross Station to SOAS; it was quite long but still enjoyable.

When we arrived at SOAS, we were given badges with our names on them as they would allow us to move through the security to get to our different workshops. The badges were also colour coded to signify what groups we were in because all the groups had a different combination of workshops that they would do. After our school was registered and we had all pinned our badges on, we went into a lecture theatre to be given an introduction and brief for the day.

We were told what would be happening throughout the day and what they hoped to achieve, which was for us to have a clearer idea on whether to study Japanese at university. We were then sorted into our groups and sent on our way to our first workshops. The first workshop that I went to was the Sumi-e Workshop. Sumi-e is a traditional Japanese way of painting. It involves painting with ink and special types of brushes. I found it to be a wonderful experience because learning about a new way to create Art is something I enjoy a lot.

After the first workshop, we went straight into another one. The second workshop was the Manga Workshop. Manga was described to us as Japanese comics. Our instructor was a Manga artist and she taught us about the history of Manga and gave us a demo on how to draw a Manga character.

Next, we went back to the lecture theatre where we attended lectures by people who had gone on to work closely with Japanese people. The first man studied Japanese at university and now worked for a company that imports Japanese food into the UK. The second man was a university professor. He had a close friend who was Japanese and learnt a lot of morals and life lessons from him and wanted to share them.

We then had one last workshop and lecture. The workshop I took part in was for a Japanese dance called Yosakoi. The instructor was a woman who lived in Japan for a few years through the Jet program. The Jet program allows English speakers to teach English in Japan. She now works for the Japanese embassy in the UK. Whilst she lived in Japan she learnt how to dance Yosakoi, so she came to teach us how to dance a little Yosakoi too. It was an interesting and fun experience. The final lecture before we went home was given to us by two SOAS students. They gave us an insight on what it was like to study Japanese there. It seemed to be a challenging, but enriching experience.

To conclude, the day was very helpful in giving an insight to what studying Japanese is like at university level. It was a lovely taster into Japanese culture too, and really inspired some people on what they wanted to do in the future. If anyone gets a chance to go to Japan one day, they should definitely go.

Annabella Lam, Year 12



"Let there be light!"

During my time at BGS I have been heavily involved in the technical side of productions in the Hall. I have been grateful during that time for investment that the school was able to put into developing the facilities, such that we have a pleasingly flexible lighting system in place. As we increased capacity and variation in the lighting that we could provide, however, the lighting desk - bought second-hand - that we've been using for the past five years or so has been struggling to keep up. It has suffered wear and tear across the years and would need a significantly-expensive overhaul to ensure it could continue to deliver.

When K10, our new theatre, was constructed, a lighting desk was bought for it, with which numerous drama students have become familiar. At the same time, my two most experienced technicians, without whom much of what we've done over the past few years would have been a struggle, left BGS to head off to university. The Hall was crying out for a better lighting desk that wouldn't require extensive additional training for its operators, and yet, in these days of austerity and budgetary constraint, it looked as though this would not be possible.

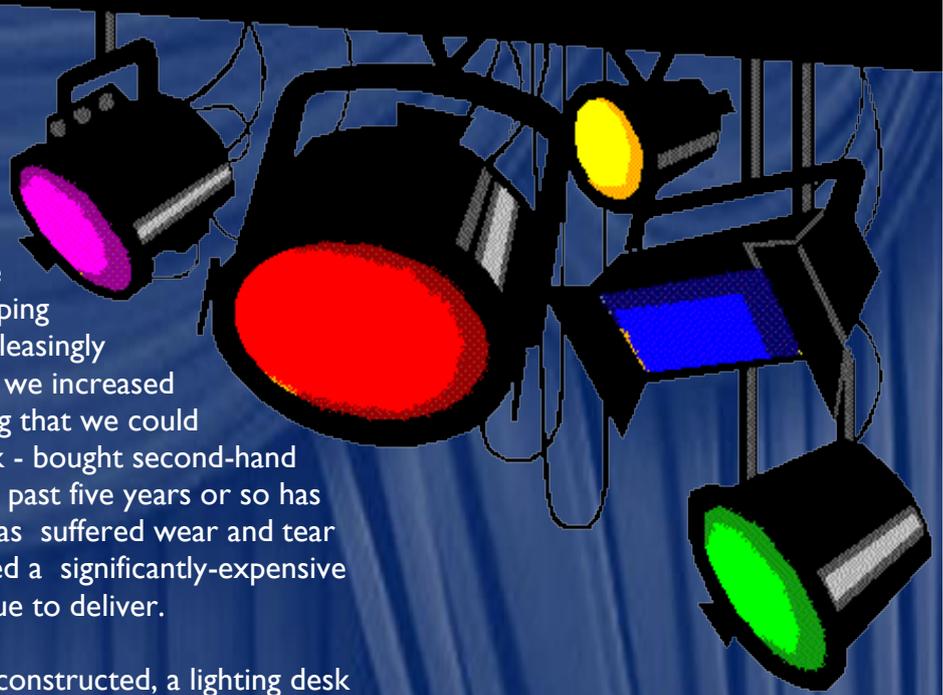
Enter the PA...

These wonderful people were told of our situation and leapt in to save the day. They have generously provided the funds to purchase a brand-new lighting desk that has the capability to control the hall's lighting rig, that can control sound and video effects (OK, so I'm looking quite a way into the future to take full advantage of that!) and that can be used by a number of students already inducted into the K10 tech crew.

Come the New Year and I expect the new desk (an ETC ColorSource 40 AV for those nerds out there!) to be up and running and helping us show off our system and our students. For many of you the first opportunity to see it controlling a show won't be until the summer production of '**School of Rock**', although in the meantime, I would suggest watching '**Oliver Twist**', lit by the new desk's smaller cousin in K10.

A huge **THANK YOU** to the PA, and to all of you who support its work throughout the year. Without your contributions and their vision for the school there would be a lot of things that just wouldn't happen.

Chris Asker, Head of FBCS and Technical Manager of the BGS Hall



PE News

What a great week for the Girl Footballers. The KS3 team won their first match of the league in the 7 a-side league played at Erith School versus Trinity A. A great second half goal by Gracie Speak nailed the win for the girls with Gracie receiving player of the match.



On Wednesday the girls played in a 5 a-side BGS tournament. Twenty two girls in years 7, 8 and 9 played in mixed teams with the yellows coming out in first place. Great effort girls.

Mrs Haslam, Girls' Football Coach



News Items You May Have Missed

Bexley Grammar School & Bexley Borough Cycling Initiatives

Are you thinking about taking up cycling this school year? Maybe one day a week for your commute, cycle to school or just for leisure. Whether it's for fun, fitness or you just want an easy way to get around, there's lots of help available from Bexley council to get you back in the saddle. If you live, work or study in Bexley, finding out if cycling suits you has never been easier.

Free cycle lessons

For adults, Bexley offers:

- Free, tailored courses to suit individual abilities and goals
- A free, tailored session and practice in a safe off-road environment with a fully qualified instructor
- GET BOB (back on bikes) - if you haven't been on a bike for some time and need to get back into cycling, this is the perfect way to improve your confidence and skills
- A free group session to improve your urban (on-road) cycling skills
- A free one-to-one session from a fully qualified trainer to perfect your advanced cycling skills
- Free family cycling sessions to gain confidence and learn skills to cycle as a family

For students, Bexley offers:

- Sessions to gain confidence and learn skills to cycle safely; with many run here at BGS in the school holidays
- Working to get cycling proficiency levels
- Cycling sessions in school on ECM days
- A bike maintenance workshop in the summer term in school

The council also runs a bike loan scheme.

For more information please contact Ms Rock for in school events and the links below for the borough.

<http://www.bexley.gov.uk/cycling>

Email: roadsafetyeducation@bexley.gov.uk

Telephone: 020 8303 7777



Library News

The Library now has a Twitter account! Please follow us **@BexleyGSLibrary** to find out about any events or competitions that we are running, and updates from our reading groups.

Mrs Carey, Librarian



Harry Potter Library Art Competition



**Are you a wonderful mixture of book worm and artist?
If so, we need you!**

**We would love to have a sign above the Library door
with the following Harry Potter quote:**

“Because that’s what Hermione does,” said Ron, shrugging.
“When in doubt, go to the Library”.
- J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets



**Please submit any ideas for a
beautiful sign on A4 paper to
Mrs Carey by 30th November.**

**The chosen winner will then
make the sign on a much
larger scale, and this will be
hung in the Library. They will
also receive a signed copy of
Monster by Michael Grant.**

Music News

KS5 Showcase DATE CHANGE!

We have had to change the date of the KS5 Showcase due to a clash in Hall bookings; it will now take place on **Tuesday 28th November at 6pm.**

Tickets will be on sale just on the day, please come along and support our Sixth Form musicians!

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.](https://yourboxoffice.co.uk/events?search=bexley)

Forthcoming Events

November

Monday 27th ~ ECM Day 2

Tuesday 28th ~ KS5 Showcase 6.00pm (see Music notice)

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

December

Friday 1st ~ **Non-uniform day, students pay £1.00 (new £1.00 coins only please)**

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 (£3.00)

Wednesday 20th ~ Last Day of the Autumn Term (click [here](#) to view end of term/start of term arrangements letter)

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