



Time to Talk Day

Thursday 1st February

Hot Teenage Topics

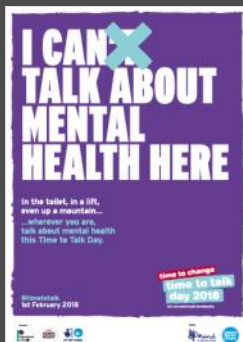
From time to time, the Pastoral team at BGS come across websites or articles we think might be useful for parents to see. We deal with a wide variety of issues outside of academics and know that these can sometimes be tough to manage, not just in school but at home, too. We have no affiliation with the producers of such materials and they do not necessarily reflect our opinions. Our aim is to provide some helpful guidance on hot topics affecting our teenagers.

Here are this week's links:

www.time-to-change.org.uk

<https://youngminds.org.uk>

Mrs Jones, School Counsellor



Do you have an old PC you don't need?

Last week we asked for any old computers and inadvertently set the minimum specification too high. We are looking for anything down to an i3 processor or equivalent. If you are not sure, please email in (below) and let us know what you have.

In school we can operate relatively old-spec computers effectively in areas that are not graphic-heavy by using our powerful network to good effect. 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. Or perhaps you have a screen you no longer use.

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 = i3 processor or equivalent and a minimum of 4G RAM.

If you think you may have something, please contact: suki@bexleygs.co.uk

Thank you,

Mr Elphick



News Items You May Have Missed

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

Bexley Literary Festival 10th - 24th February 2018

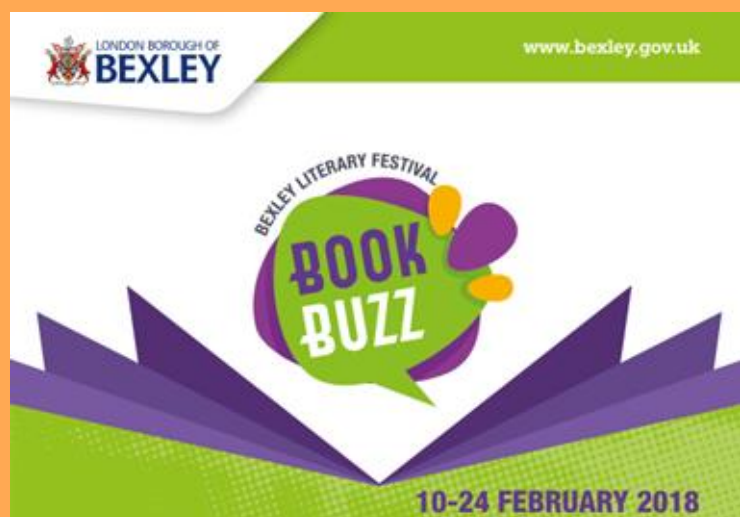
The festival includes lots of free events for children and adults of all ages, ranging from creative writing workshops and talks from authors, to poetry spins, comic books groups and drama clubs.

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>

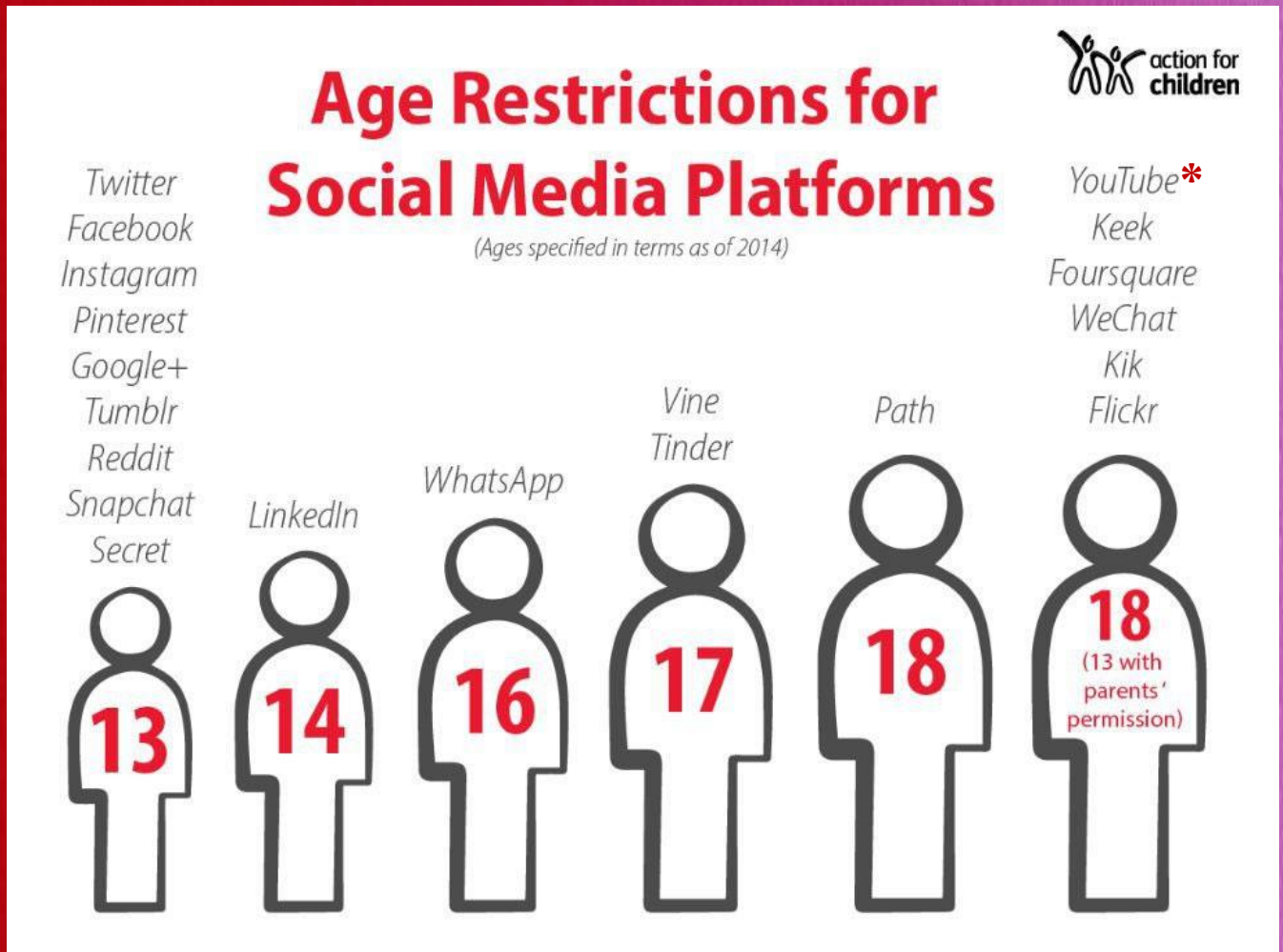
Free tickets can be booked by clicking on the link: www.bexleylibraries.eventbrite.com

Mrs Carey, School Librarian



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

Forthcoming Events

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