



**BEXLEY
GRAMMAR
SCHOOL**

NEWSLETTER

www.bexleygs.co.uk

28th June 2018

‘SCHOOL of ROCK’ Next week

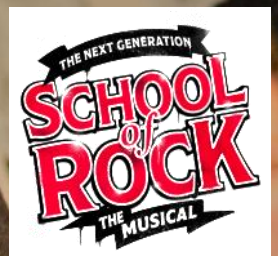
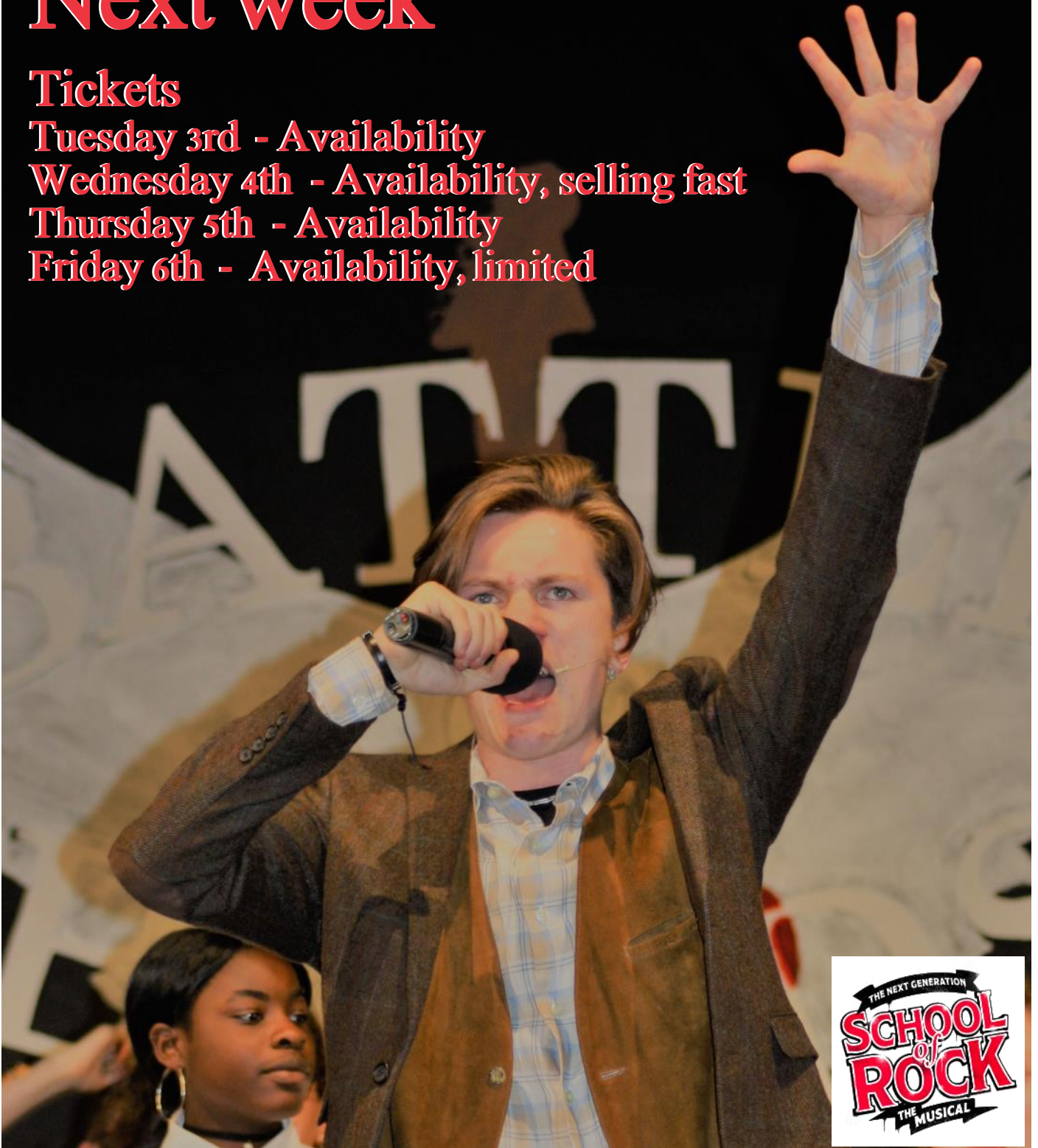
Tickets

Tuesday 3rd - Availability

Wednesday 4th - Availability, selling fast

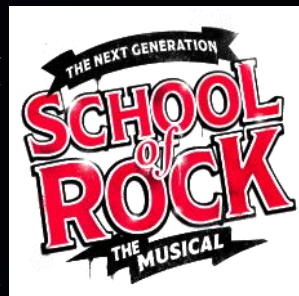
Thursday 5th - Availability

Friday 6th - Availability, limited



BGS presents 'SCHOOL of ROCK'!

The Bexley Grammar School musical production is fast approaching, and this year we are proud to present West End smash-hit SCHOOL OF ROCK. Based on the iconic, hit movie, this irresistible new musical follows Dewey Finn, a failed wannabe rock star who decides to earn some extra cash by posing as a supply teacher at a prestigious prep school. There he turns straight-A pupils into a guitar-shredding, bass-slapping, mind-blowing rock band... but can he get them to the Battle of the Bands without their parents and the school's upright headmistress finding out?



With music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, a script by Julian Fellowes and lyrics by Glenn Slater, it is a treat for all the family. The show holds more challenges than ever before: students are not only singing, acting and dancing, but also playing the guitar/ piano/ bass/ drums live on stage!

Due to the huge popularity of the show, we had the largest number of students ever audition for a show (nearly 15% of the school!), and so for the first time ever, have cast two entirely separate casts who will perform on two nights each. Therefore, if you are coming to see a specific student, please make sure you know which nights they are performing! (click on the link [here](#) to see the cast list).

The show will take place at 7pm on each of the following nights:

Tuesday 3rd & Wednesday 4th July – 'HENDRIX' Cast

Thursday 5th & Friday 6th July – 'MEGADETH' Cast

Refreshments will be served in the intervals by our school PA and the World Challenge teams.





Please note that the performance on Wednesday 4th July will be a *Gala Evening*, following a special viewing of the A-level Art Exhibition at 6pm, with a number of special guests. Therefore, there will be a more limited number of tickets available for this night, so if you want to attend on this date, please book your tickets swiftly!

Tickets for this fundraising event are available to buy online by clicking on the link [here](#).

Once you have purchased your tickets, simply print out the confirmation and bring it with you to the show. Tickets cost **£8.50** per adult and **£6.50** for children/concessions. Seating is allocated, and please note that we cannot re-allocate or change ticket orders once seating has been assigned.

I look forward to seeing you at one of the performances!

Miss Swadkin



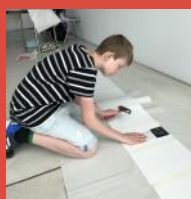
The Turner Contemporary Gallery

The new Turner Contemporary Gallery is perched on the old harbour in Margate. It was the destination for our ECM day trip. A small group of us from Years 7 and 8 went for the day. It was quite a long coach ride, but that didn't matter as it was nice to talk to people that we didn't know very well before the trip and make new friends.

When we got there we went straight into our art workshop and then went up to the gallery to look at the exhibits that we would be focusing on. The focus of the gallery this month is 'Animals and Us'. We then had a really productive art session making prints of constructed animals. We bought the final prints back and they have been put up in the S block. When we had finished our printing we were able to go around the gallery and look at the exhibits. There was a space where we put animal costumes on and read and did some more drawing.

We all had a really great day.

Year 7 pupil



PE News

We've got some new toys!

Enormous thanks to Ammar Gill (Year 7) and Dan Birch (Year 12) who generously shared their Jack Petchey Foundation Awards with the PE department. With the money we purchased new 2 basketball kits, and some exciting connected kit to measure performance data via Bluetooth.

Mr Lines, Head of PE



As the end of the year rapidly approaches, it's time for us to update our PE department honours boards. We want to make sure that we can celebrate the many sporting successes our students have accomplished this year. If you have been selected for Kent (or SE England, England or GB!) this year - please come and see me in the PE department to give me the details.

Mr Lines, Head of PE



Year 9 German Exchange Trip

On Tuesday 12th June, many students on the German side of Year 9 were lucky enough to be able to travel to Germany, Rhineland to be precise. The journey was long (but travelling across the English Channel on an enormous ferry was fun), and I was quite nervous about meeting the people we were going to stay with (this was my first experience of staying with a host family), but we found ways to pass the time (eating, sleeping, playing cards, looking out of the window and taking in our surroundings).

On Wednesday, having had a pleasant night's sleep (meeting the host family and getting settled in wasn't nearly as hard as I'd expected), we met up at our coach and made our way to Cologne. We stopped outside Cologne Cathedral, a towering, gothic structure which acts as a centre for the town. We walked alongside the Rhine down to the chocolate museum, where we learnt lots about how chocolate makes its way from the bean to dark, milk and white chocolate. At the end of our tour, we received a wafer with melted chocolate from a chocolate fountain, and were also taken through a tropical climate room so we could get a feel of the environment in which cocoa beans grow. Next, we travelled up Drachenfels (a very tall hill) by funicular railway, and got to see some breath taking views from the top! Later the same day, we visited the house where Beethoven was born (the ceilings were very low) and we saw some of the instruments Beethoven himself played!

On Thursday, we travelled once more to Cologne, where we received a guided tour of the town. We then were fortunate enough to go on a boat trip along the Rhine, seeing Cologne from yet another angle. A short ride took us to Cologne Zoo, where we were given free rein to look at all the animals, trying to read the information about each animal, which was written in German. When we met up again at the coach, the heavens opened (we got back not a moment too soon!).

Friday saw us go to Phantasialand, a German theme park. I went on lots of rides, and had great fun (even when one of the water rides that I was on broke down just before a big drop!) The attention to detail was amazing in the theme park, with many different zones based on different cultures (including African, China Town and Mystery), and buildings everywhere that really looked the part! Tired and soaking from that one water ride that I loved and went on 5 times, we squelched back to the coach, for the final night with our host families, when we thanked them and packed our bags.

And in no time we were back home! I felt like I'd been away for weeks with everything that'd been packed in! Just like going out to Germany had been weird to start with (walking past people in the street talking German instead of English as we are used to, but also passing English tourists, to really confuse us!), coming back to England felt really odd (back to driving on the left side of the road, being able to speak fully in English etc.) But, around 800 pictures, well over 700 miles of travel just from school to Rhineland and back, lots of German spoken; later, we were back home, really tired with heads spinning with all our new and exciting experiences!

Huge thanks to our kind and welcoming host family who fed us, gave us a place to sleep, and enabled us to practise our German in conversation with German speakers who have no knowledge of English! Great thanks, too, to our coach driver who put up with our noise for the whole trip, took us wherever we needed to go (and back again!), and was so friendly and kind all the time! And most of all, enormous thanks to our teachers (especially Mr Lopez, who organised all this) for taking us on this amazing trip, sorting out everything we need and making everything constant fun! We couldn't have had such a brilliant and valuable experience such as this without them, and we'll remember it forever (in a good way!).

Sam Wilson, Year 9



Year 10 Students Representing BGS

Last week three students from Year 10 (Ramsha Hussain, Matthew Brooker & Joseph Wheeler) attended the Youth Travel Ambassadors Expo at the Museum of Transport, Covent Garden. They got to hear about what students from other secondary schools in London had been doing to encourage safer, healthier and more active travel to school. They also had to present to over 60 students what their plans and ideas will be for BGS next year, including cycle route planning sessions, promoting the use of helmets and better changing room facilities for cyclists. The confidence, clarity and enthusiasm shown by our students was outstanding, and noted by the staff & students listening too. Whilst there, students had the opportunity to take part in a Rollapaluzza competition to see who could cycle 200 meters the fastest. Congratulations to Matthew for winning the event, beating 60 students from over 10 schools! All three students represented BGS brilliantly. Well done!



Mrs Gradley

Nihongo Cup, Japanese Speech Competition

On the 16th June, I took part in the Nihongo Cup 2018 Finals, a Japanese public speaking competition for which I had been shortlisted out of 97 applicants from 22 schools. The competition consisted of 18 finalists split into 3 groups of 6, who each gave a speech about a topic they felt strongly about. As such, I decided to talk about the underlying roots of xenophobia within Japanese culture, a topic that I hold very dear, and spoke to advocate peace and equality for the future of Japan. Despite a few slip-ups during the second half of the speech, I'm happy to say that I caught the attention and interest of all members of the audience, and consequently I felt (and still feel) a strong sense of pride for being able to speak up for what I believe in to a wider audience. I'm also delighted to say that I won 3rd place, though to me, that is only a secondary achievement, as the real success came down to being shortlisted, from which I give my greatest thanks to my Japanese teacher, Mrs Everett, for helping me every step of the way, from the translation of the speech and my public speaking skills to raising morale and providing personal support. I'm deeply grateful to have come so far, and can humbly take pride over my achievements in the form of a shining bronze medal.

Timi Akinsola, Year 12



Library News

Carnegie Shadowing



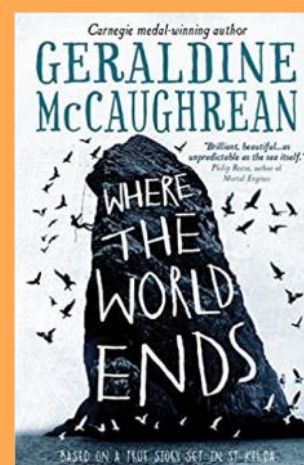
The Carnegie shadowing group had a trip to Townley Grammar to join other schools for the Bexley Awards Ceremony, during which each school delivered a presentation on their favourite book, and then each student voted for their winner. Our reading group delivered a superb presentation on *After the Fire* by Will Hill, a book based on the Waco siege, which was then voted the Bexley Carnegie winner too. Our group decided to create a presentation that was similar in style to an Oscars awards show, where they gave prizes for 'bravest character', 'most dramatic character' and 'craziest character', and the students came out to accept these awards in character as undercover FBI agents, rebellious children and zealous cult members. Charlie Keeling (8RF) was hilarious as the maniacal cult leader, and managed to simultaneously terrify everyone and try to recruit new members. All of the group contributed to the presentation, and I was very proud of their performance.

Mrs Carey, Librarian

Olivia Harry (9ACR) has written a final Carnegie blog post about the day:

Curtsies and Bows

The award process has come to an end; presentations have been presented, scripts have been read and words said aloud. As for our plucky little group, we have retired for this year, with hopes of taking part in the scheme next year. For those that remain unaware, the winner was the book 'Where the World Ends' by Geraldine McCaughrean, who won the overall award. Different to last year, Bexley Grammar did not predict the winner, and nor did Bexley! We chose to do a presentation on 'After the Fire', a stunning novel by Will Hill. Despite the fact it was chosen by Bexley also, it didn't make it to London and we were left shell shocked, given that we had predicted it correctly last year, and were very confident this year. Nevertheless, we congratulate the winner and thank all those who read our weekly blog and helped make this award possible. A big thanks goes to Mrs Carey, who helped organise our group, as well as providing a library to read in, the books to read. But most importantly of all, a big thanks to Mrs Carey for providing snacks. (You really think I'd go a blog without mentioning the food!?) Thanks for every crisp, chocolate chip cookie, cake and crumb that we devoured in our weekly meetings. But enough of the snack, talk, because now as the final blog comes to a close, I hear you ask yourself, but what for my favourite Carnegie Group? Well, I'm not sure, you'll have to ask them; but for us, thank you loyal readers, we'll see you next year! -*Olivia*



News Items You May Have Missed

Instrumental applications for 2018 - 2019

Please note that if you already have lessons with a teacher in school, this will **automatically roll over** to next year.

If you wish to cease lessons, please inform your teacher in writing before the end of this term. Apply here for new students:

<https://www.bgsperformingarts.com/instrumental-lessons.html>

Miss Swadkin, Head of Music



Reception Early Closure

Parents and students please note that the School Reception will be **closing at 3.30pm on Friday 29th June** and **4.30pm on Monday 2nd July**.

Thank you

Reception



Overseas Residential Trips 2018 – 2019

To help parents decide which overseas/residential visits they would like their child to participate in for the coming year we have drawn up a list of trips (including expected cost) that have been approved for 2018 - 2019.

Department	Trip Name	No of Nights	Year Group	Approx. Cost
October				
Science	Flatford Biology & ESS Field Trip	2	Year 12	£230.00
PE	Barcelona Sports Tour	5	Years 7- 9 Invitation only	£740.00
Modern Languages	Japan Exchange	11	Years 8, 9 & 10	£1,700.00
February				
Classics	Classics Trip to Greece or Italy	5	Years 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12	£790.00
Economics & Business Studies	Economics & Business USA or China Trip	7	Year 13	£1,300.00
History	History & Politics USA Trip	7	Years 12 & 13	£1,400.00
Modern Languages	Russia trip	5	Years 10, 11, 12 & 13	£950.00
PE	Ski Trip	8	Years 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13	£910.00
Geography	Iceland	4	Years 12 & 13	£960.00
April				
Modern Languages	Sixth Form French Exchange	7	Years 12 & 13	£400.00
Modern Languages	Sixth Form Italian Exchange	7	Years 12 & 13	£500.00
Modern Languages	Sixth Form Spanish Exchange	7	Years 12 & 13	£450.00
May				
History	Year 10 History Krakow and Berlin Trip	5	Year 10	£700.00
Modern Languages	Year 10 Málaga Spanish Exchange	5	Year 10	£400.00
Modern Languages	Year 10 Sardinia Italian Trip	5	Year 10	£500.00

Department	Trip Name	No of Nights	Year Group	Approx. Cost
June				
Geography	Year 10 Kingswood Field Trip	4	Year 10	£260.00
Modern Languages	Hamburg Exchange German Trip	6	Year 9	£300.00
Modern Languages	Year 9 St Malo French Trip	4	Year 9	£450.00
Modern Languages	Year 9 Rhineland German	4	Year 9	£450.00
July				
Modern Languages	China 2020	7	Years 10, 11, 12 & 13	£1,900.00
Music	Music Tour to Europe	7	All years involved in Music clubs	£750.00

Bexley Grammar School Jazz Evening

Tuesday 10th July at 6pm

Adults £6

Concessions £4

Click [here](#) to purchase your tickets



ENTER ANY OF YOUR POEMS TO THIS COMPETITION

The competition is open to any writer
aged 11-17 on the deadline of
midnight 31st July 2018.

Entries must be written in English and
it is completely FREE to enter.

For the competition this year, Caroline has said that she will be
looking for “a poem that feels alive on the page... rich
with imagery and playfulness, highly alert to language.”

Whilst Daljit remarked that “all I’m looking for is a poet having
a good time, whether it be about a serious subject such as
environment issues or a silly one such as a chocolate wrapper.”

Go to
<https://foyleyoungpoets.org/>
to find out more!

Miss Gabriel



North Kent Tennis
Grade 6 Competition at
Shooters Hill LTC
Summer Holidays 2018



Monday 6th August 2018

Time	Ses- sion	Age	N K Club Member Cost	Non Member Cost
10am – 12.30pm	Mini Tennis Red	8&U	£10	£12
1pm – 3.30pm	Mini Tennis Orange	9&U	£10	£12

Tuesday 7th August 2018

Time	Ses- sion	Age	N K Club Mem- ber Cost	Non Member Cost
10am - 12.30pm	Mini Tennis Green	10&U	£10	£12
1pm – 3.30pm	Full Tennis 10.2 & 10.1	12&U- 18&U	£10	£12

Wednesday 8th August 2018

Time	Session	Age	N K Club Member Cost	Non Member Cost
10am - 1pm	Full Tennis 9.2 & 9.1	12&U- 18&U	£10	£12
1pm - 4pm	Full Tennis 8.2 & 8.1	12&U- 18&U	£10	£12

The closing date is **Friday 3rd August 2018**. Places must be booked in advance. A minimum of 4 players are required in order for the competition to take place. If not, then the competition will be cancelled. Cash on the day or BACS. Please contact Phil for more details.

Address is Eaglesfield Road, Shooters Hill, London SE18 3DA.

Any questions please contact Phil on [07815927767](tel:07815927767) or email headcoach@shltc.info

Many thanks www.shootershilltennisclub.co.uk

Shooters Hill
LTC Summer Holiday
Junior Coaching

All junior tennis players aged **11-18 years old** are invited to come along to experience 4 days of intensive drills, up to date technical advice and matchplay experience.

Week 1: Monday 23rd July – Thursday 26th July 3.30 – 5.30pm

Week 2: Monday 30th July – Thursday 2nd August 3.30 – 5.30pm

Week 3: Tuesday 14th August – Friday 17th August 3.30 – 5.30pm

Cost per day is £15 members/
£18 non members
or £55 members/
£65 non members for all 4 days.

Please book in & pay before **Saturday 21st July** to secure your place. If you cannot book before the date please call ahead to check availability.

To book in and arrange payment please contact Phil Layfield on headcoach@shltc.info or call 07815927767.

Many thanks, Phil
and the coaching team
www.shootershilltennisclub.co.uk



Forthcoming Events

June

Friday 29th ~ School Reception closing at 3.30pm (see notice)

July

Sunday 1st ~ Year 13 Prom

Monday 2nd ~ School Reception closing at 4.30pm (see notice)

Tuesday 3rd ~ School of Rock 7pm (see notice)

Wednesday 4th ~ School of Rock 7pm (see notice)

Thursday 5th ~ School of Rock 7pm (see notice)

Friday 6th ~ School of Rock 7pm (see notice)

Friday 6th ~ Results Day - Year 13 IB

Monday 9th ~ Year 11 Prom

Tuesday 10th ~ BGS Jazz Evening 6pm - 9.30pm (see notice - please note this performance starts at 6pm)

Monday 16th ~ Early School closure for students at 2.15pm for Speech Day

Friday 20th ~ Last day of summer term

August

Thursday 16th ~ Results Day - Year 13 A Level

Thursday 23rd ~ Results Day - Year 11 GCSE

September

Monday 3rd ~ Inset Day (School closed to students)

Please be aware of the staggered start for students in September

Tuesday 4th ~ Year 7 and 12 students only

Wednesday 5th ~ All students

Tuesday 11th ~ Inset Day (School closed to students)