

hocc age

Summer 2011

a note from the head

Wow! I am sure the years pass quicker each term; (and not just because I now qualify for a bus pass!) I find it hard to believe that I am reflecting on my final Summer Term at BGS. As always there have been some real highlights not just of this term but my time at the School. The visit by HRH The Duke of Kent in May will be a memory that will remain with me long into my retirement. It reflected everything about BGS of which I am so proud. The Catering, Estates and Marketing Departments working together to organise the day, the Heads of Departments, teaching staff and pupils projecting the vibrancy and diversity of BGS and the resultant enjoyment of governors, guests, staff and pupils alike. HRH and other distinguished guests all commented that it was the enthusiasm and confidence of the pupils as well as the breadth of their talents and achievements that really made it a day to remember, for them.... and us.

Stephen Davidson



new headmaster

Kevin Riley writes:

I am thrilled to be given the opportunity to lead BGS; it is one of the best schools in the UK which means it is one of the best schools in the world. Working in an international setting has given me a fresh perspective on British Independent Schools and how much the education they provide is admired and copied. I suspect we rather take it for granted in the UK and sometimes see the flaws without fully appreciating the quality of the education.

What is clear to me is how vital a good education is for BGS students if they are to make their mark on the world as so many of their predecessors have done. By that I mean the all-round excellence which characterises the School now and enables students to achieve so much in so many different areas. Working in Asia has been fascinating - the passion for education and the ambition for success are very real. I look forward to students at BGS continuing to develop a world class outlook and developing the skills to become leaders in their chosen fields of endeavour.



royal visit

On 12 May HRH The Duke of Kent arrived by helicopter at Bradford Grammar School and was greeted by one hundred and twenty First Year pupils before going on a tour of the Stephen Davidson Learning Link, the Alan Jerome Building and the refurbished Kenneth Robinson Building. His Royal Highness met the Senior Management Team, various Heads of Departments and many pupils representing those departments. During his tour he also met pupils who have represented their country at various sports, the 1st Eight rowers, who are the current U19 World Record Holders, and the School's cricket and tennis teams, who are touring Grenada and South Africa respectively this summer. The CCF added to the occasion by manning every doorway that the Duke passed through. The Duke stayed for lunch, provided by the BGS Catering Department, in the Stephen Davidson Learning Link with invited guests before unveiling the commemorative plaque and signing the Visitors' Book. During lunch the BGS String Quartet played and during the signing of the Visitors' Book Junior School pupil Han Zhao played the piano. Six year old Ava Hanafin presented The Duke of Kent with a gift of cloth from Bradford textile manufacturers Bulmer and Lumb before he was waved off enthusiastically by the Junior School pupils. The Duke said: "I was absolutely delighted to have met so many talented young people who were so articulate about their plans for the future."

stephen davidson bursary fund

A huge thank you to all those who have already donated to the Headmaster's retirement Bursary Fund. Should you wish to make a donation or require any further information please contact Marie Sugden tel. 01274 553710 or email marie@bradfordgrammar.com.



first year walk

On Friday 17 June the First Year set off on its annual twelve mile walk over the moor to Ilkley, to celebrate a successful year and the end of exam week. This year they were raising money for the Bradford Soup Run with a target of £3000. Rain was forecast for the afternoon but it held off until the pupils had returned to BGS, which made a good day that bit better. They made it to Ilkley in record time, with the last pupil arriving at White Wells just before 2pm. Congratulations to all the staff who made the event possible and to all the pupils for throwing themselves so enthusiastically into the day.

tennis

Highlights of the tennis season have included the U19 boys (Alistair Kwan, Jonny Dow, Jake Ramsey and Ben Cunnington) winning the Yorkshire Section of the Glenville Cup National Schools to qualify for the final in July. They will be ranked in the top 16 in Great Britain. The U18, U14 and U12 teams all won the BGS Invitational Tournament. Adam Aslam and James Liu qualified for the Yorkshire finals.

In the Aegon Cup the U15 and U13 boys and girls are unbeaten. This year's Road to Wimbledon winners were Adam Aslam and Libby Linfield. Fantastic tours have been enjoyed by all age groups, with the Senior Tour departing on the 16 July for two weeks in South Africa for 11 boys and 11 girls.



athletics

Nine pupils from the Senior School represented Bradford at the West Yorkshire Schools' Event. The Junior Boys' team qualified for the Regional A final in the England Schools' Cup and the First Year athletes did extremely well to win the John Woodcock Bradford Schools' Games and are now in the final of the West Yorkshire Youth Games which will be held at Leeds Carnegie.

badminton

BGS has had another superb year on the badminton court and has surpassed itself winning all age groups in the Bradford Schools' League. The Yorkshire Schools' League was a little tougher; all teams competed well and played with dedication and determination. It has been pleasing to see some new talent on the court and there seems to be a few keen and enthusiastic First Year pupils who it will be great to see progress. It is quite sad to see our senior girls leave at the end of the Upper Sixth Form, who have played badminton throughout their time at BGS and have made excellent progress.

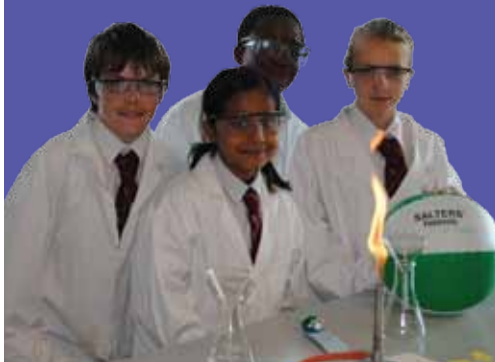
mountain biking

Congratulations to Lower Sixth pupil Helena Below who is currently the top of the North of England Series at mountain biking in the junior ladies category. Helena trains three times per week and has taken part in four qualifying races. In the National Championships held at Sherwood Pines she finished a very credible seventh. Helena is now working hard preparing for the next national event in July.



chemistry

Four members of the First Year, Abigail Taylor, Christian Cardwell, Seun Ogunde and Mehreen Khalil, took part in the Regional Heat of the RSC Salters Chemistry Competition at the Department of Chemistry, University of Bradford, in early May. They were competing against Second Year pupils from a selection of schools from Yorkshire and Lancashire. In the morning session, the Salters Challenge, they were asked to carry out forensic chemistry exercises in a chemistry laboratory and detective work to establish who was responsible for a crime. They did superbly well with their analysis and were awarded First Prize in this competition, winning individual prizes and over £150 worth of molecular modelling sets for the School. In the afternoon they competed in the University Challenge in which they had to manufacture an ice salt mixture to create low enough temperatures to make vanilla ice cream. Congratulations to all who took part.



spring fair

The Spring Fair organised by the Parents' Association was once again a busy and fun affair with an array of things to do and buy. The Price Hall was full of splendid stalls and the Reception area housed games, competitions and raffles. A variety of food stalls serving everything from butties and burgers to bhajis could be found on the Governors' Lawn. A large obstacle course, bucking bronco and coconut shy were a few of the entertaining external activities. Something new for this year was the chocolate fountain which was a huge hit with many visitors. Junior School pupils also enjoyed taking part in a recycling competition and a football tournament. The Fair's sponsors, JCT 800, brought a display of sports cars and the Terrace was filled with a colourful display of bedding plants for sale to support the forthcoming cricket tour. The day started with a small shower which did not dampen spirits and the sun shone in the afternoon to round off a successful fundraising and enjoyable day.



rugby

Congratulations to Fourth Form pupils Sam Melville and Harry Manock who were both delighted to play for Yorkshire U15s at rugby in a match against Lancashire.

Sam also played against the England U16B team at Warwick whilst playing for Leeds Carnegie U16s.

cricket

The Schools' cricket squads are now well into their season which will continue until the end of term. Younger cricketers enjoyed a cricket tour to London and the senior squad will end the term with a tour of Grenada. The BGS Cricket Academy has been running again this term with sessions held on Fridays from 4.15pm - 6.15pm and is suitable for all abilities.

world class partnership

As part of our World Olympic Dreams partnership Bradford Grammar School was challenged to a rowathon by their partnered school James Brindley School, Birmingham. Six pupils from various year groups all rowed as far as they could in five minutes to achieve a thirty minute distance goal.

Alex Sheldon, Zoe Sheldon, Ruby Hendry, Matthew Harris, George Hudman and Ed Truby rowed a combined winning total of 6356m compared with James Brindley's 5575m. The rowers were encouraged and supported by our current world record holder 1st Eight rowers. Film clips, photos and text can be seen on the BBC website by searching the site for Bradford Grammar School.

The Junior School is twinned with Knockhall Community Primary School and they are preparing film clips and photographs to exchange with each other. The two schools are also hoping to meet in London next year.



dofe award

With over one hundred and ten pupils signed up for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award the popularity of this activity continues to grow. The volunteering, physical and skills sections allow the students to gain recognition for activities they are often already carrying out as part of their involvement in the school's large range of extra-curricular activities. The expedition is however invariably a completely new experience for the students involved. The weekend of 6-9 May saw ninety-eight students complete their practice expeditions in Lower Wharfedale. The weather was kind to all involved and there was a great sense of fun and achievement. The next challenge is their actual expeditions which will be taking place in Nidderdale. The enrolment of students in the current Third Form has already started and it is hoped that many students will take the opportunity to be involved in the Award.

junior school county & regional honours

The Junior School triumphed in the recent North East Region IAPS Athletics Championships with the highest number of qualifiers from any of the IAPS schools that took part. Six of our boys and girls will represent the North of England at the National Finals in Birmingham in July. Natasha Dawson (Hurdles), Phoebe Ogden (Long Jump), Jessica Manning (1500m), Khizar Shehzad (Discus) and Brandon St Catherine (Javelin) all won their individual events. Ben Scholefield came second in the 100m but posted a time that was faster than the national qualifying time and so qualifies for the team. All six of these pupils were also selected to represent West Yorkshire in the Indoor Athletics Championships earlier in the year.



alpe d'huez

Thirty-two students from the First to Third Forms and four members of staff went on the 2011 Junior Ski Trip to Alpe d'Huez.

The trip started in the early hours of a cold Easter morning at BGS. The group flew from Manchester to Grenoble and then by coach to its final destination, Alpe d'Huez, where they travelled up the famous twenty-one bends (the iconic stage of the Tour de France).

Snow conditions weren't great but, through brilliant insight and planning, skiing conditions were maximised and a good time was had by all.



There was a wide range of après-ski activities available: ice-skating, summer luge, swimming and trips to town were popular options after a hard day's toil on the slopes.

Evening entertainment was provided and some of the activities included games night and film night. Every night wigs were presented: the Master of Disaster Wig and the Hazard Wig. Nominations were for being disastrous on or off the slopes.

The trip had all the ingredients for a great ski trip; good skiing, great banter and a good laugh. Many pupils made new friends on the trip and are already looking forward to next year.

race for life

On Sunday 12 June over ninety pupils, parents, staff and friends of BGS took part in the Race for Life in Lister Park. Managing to miss the rain daughters, mothers and grandmothers ran or walked the 5k race. Two of our pupils ran amazingly well, to finish in the top five. Second Form pupil Katy Boden (pictured during the warm-up) finished second and First Form pupil Izzy Wellings finished fifth. The event was used by many to remember and support their own family and friends who have been touched by cancer, and Junior School pupils and staff had Sara Denham-Smith in their thoughts.



Following the event many met back at school for refreshments and to exchange stories with each other and the Headmaster, Stephen Davidson. A great day was had by all whilst raising money for a worthy cause.



golf

This term the Golf Society have made an agreement with Northcliffe Golf Club. Our pupils are offered Junior membership at the club at a reduced rate. As part of this agreement School matches have been based at the club and the School teams are coached by Duncan Moore PGA AA Head Professional. Northcliffe is an excellent club with a challenging course and excellent facilities. As well as competing against other schools there is an annual golf day against the Old Bradfordian Association; this was a fiercely competitive day and on this occasion was won by the OBA team.

glee club

A new lunchtime club has started this term. It is held in the Music Auditorium every Tuesday lunchtime at 1.00pm and is open to boys and girls from all Senior School year groups. No need to be able to read music, just enthusiasm and being open to having fun with a light-hearted sing-along with Mrs Mancey. The group will be working towards producing performances for the school production.



biathlon & pentathlon

In March, all Clock House pupils enjoyed the inter-house biathlon event run in conjunction with Pentathlon GB. This gave pupils the opportunity to compete in running and swimming and also take part in a taster fencing session.

The season climax was the Yorkshire and Humber-side Championships held at Queen Margaret's School, York. There were some excellent results by the children involved: Ben Scholefield came 5th in the U12 boys and the J5 boys' team of Ben Moon, Aaron Narang and Christian Burke qualified for the National team competition. They travelled to Birmingham and performed extremely well, coming second overall in the country! Jessica Manning won the U12 girls' championship and, as the county's top performer, was invited to represent Yorkshire and Humber-side in the British Finals.

In June, the younger children in school were given the chance to take part in a day organised by Pentathlon GB where they had the chance to shoot and fence. The Junior School are hoping to work in conjunction with the Yorkshire branch to have a regular weekly club in school where children can practise running, swimming, fencing and shooting, and hopefully encourage stars of the future.

swimming

The swimming team competed in the annual invitation relays event at Newcastle-under-Lyme School. Each relay team must have a minimum of two girls per team. The School was represented at U14, U16 and senior events. The senior team were successful in both the medley and freestyle relays and also achieved two new record times. Well done to George Mack, David Brown, Jen Bonson and Sian Morgan.

scrapyard trip

This term J4 visited Crossley-Evans Scrapyard in Shipley with a view to seeing the scientific principles relating to metals and magnetism in action. They toured the site asking questions about how the scrap metal is processed and transported to be re-used into new things. This was very topical as J4 have been studying recycling and the properties of materials in Science. The pupils particularly enjoyed watching a car as it was crushed into a small cuboid and seeing the electromagnet cranes at work. The whole year group was weighed on the lorry weigh group; collectively they totalled over 1.6 tonnes!



sailing

Each Wednesday afternoon in the Summer Term up to twenty-five pupils travel by minibus to Doe Park in Denholme. Here pupils of all ages and abilities have the opportunity to sail, windsurf and kayak; all equipment including wetsuits is provided. The pupils work towards achieving RYA and BCU qualifications. They enter the Bradford annual regatta which is a very competitive event. During recent years Hector Simpson and Lizzie Pike have won this event.



chateau trip

In the second week of the Easter holidays, a group of thirty-six Third, Fourth and Sixth Form pupils travelled to the Château de la Baudonnière in the middle of the beautiful Normandy countryside. Younger pupils took part in a range of sporting events such as aeroball, orienteering, archery and a very muddy assault course, while the Sixth Form pupils visited a number of local places of interest including the town hall, a goat's cheese farm and the fire station.

Throughout the week the aim was for pupils to be immersed in the French language. They were taught by *animateurs* who spoke to them only in French and who would only understand the pupils when they spoke back to them in French. The Sixth Form also endured some preparation for their AS or A level French speaking tests and had a mock exam at the end of the week.

They enjoyed fabulous weather all week with lots of gloriously hot sunshine. The Château offered traditional French hospitality and excellent local fare, and the pupils enjoyed all the food that they were offered, even the snails! The trip included visits to a local market town to see a French market in all its vibrancy and to Mont St Michel, the abbey on the border between Normandy and Brittany.

Everyone had a great time and, most importantly, made a good deal of progress in French.

fairtrade

A donation of £383 has been sent to banana farmers in the Windward Islands who have been affected by a hurricane earlier this year. Nioka Abbott, who visited the school last February, is one of the Fairtrade banana producers who have been affected. Money was raised at the BGS Fashion Show where two Fairtrade items of clothing were auctioned and raised £50. Clock House very kindly decided to donate the money collected at their Harvest Festival this year - a fantastic £275, plus a cheque of £57 from Bradford Fairtrade and a donation from the BGS Fairtrade stalls held throughout the year, were added together to help the affected farmers.



ccf

The CCF Recruit Trophy is an annual award and its recipient is the new cadet who has shown the greatest dedication and competency to duties over the past year. The quality of the intake to the CCF this year has been extraordinary and as a consequence the trophy was awarded to two Fourth Form cadets, Alex Spencer and Alexandra Farrar. Both were delighted to have received the award as they have thoroughly enjoyed being a part of the CCF and had particularly enjoyed flying in a Grob Tutor aircraft from RAF Church Fenton, shooting practice at Strensall Barracks and the camp at Ripon Barracks.



wheelchair basketball

Mark Scholefield, in the Fifth Form, has had another successful season playing wheelchair basketball. He has recently represented Great Britain in the U22 team (in between GCSEs) in a friendly tournament between GB, Italy, Germany and Sweden, which took place in Cantu, near Milan, in May.

Mark has made his debut in the UK Super League this year, and is one of the youngest ever players to appear in the SSB Sheffield Steelers Super League team. Mark played in both rounds of the Eurocup, the first of which took place in Vienna, where the Steelers were the only UK team to get through to the next round in Madrid.



Mark has been re-awarded a place in the Talented Athlete Scholarship Scheme this year, has attended the NTOC (National Talent Orientation Camp), has been selected for a place on the I-Xcel programme (Youth Sport Trust), and has achieved Paralympian Silver Status (i.e. Olympic potential post-2012).

In the summer he will be representing Scotland in the Celtic Cup, Sheffield Steelers in Canadian and Belgian tournaments, participating in the UK School games in Leeds and keeping up the training!



sports day

This year's Junior School Sports Day was a truly great day with every pupil taking part in at least one event. The day started in the Swimming Pool with some very close and exciting races. The diving competition was won by Royal and the overall pool event winners were Founders. In the afternoon, managed to avoid any downpours, the sports events got on their way with the sack and egg-and-spoon races. These were followed by some fantastic running and a special obstacle event in which House Captains and Vice-Captains represented their houses. Whilst scores were being calculated, the staff challenged the parents in a tug-of-war competition and were undeniably beaten. Freeman was awarded the Fair Play Award but all the pupils behaved wonderfully and were a credit to themselves and their houses. The overall winners on the day were Founders.

music

One of the highlights of this term and the music calendar is the annual concert that has become known as the Leavers' Concert. As well as the BGS music ensembles, the Sixth Form pupils for whom music has played a large part in their time at school are given the opportunity to showcase their talents for the last time as a pupil of BGS and for many it is the final time they will play together. This year's concert included a wide range of music from Madness to Mozart. The evening's entertainment began at 7.15pm and through to the 10.00pm finish the audience were entertained with the highest calibre of musicianship. There were stunning solo performances by Ben Law, Alison Haigh, Matthew Boyle, Joanna Twaddle, Daniel Porter and Alastair Kwan. The Senior Orchestra's rendition of *Land of Hope & Glory* was a fitting end to a wonderful day at BGS which had included a Royal Visit where the String Quartet played for HRH The Duke of Kent during lunch.



There have also been a number of Music and Poetry Evenings, where the Music and English Departments come together and plan a line-up of musical and poetry reading performances. These evenings are intended to give the pupils the opportunity to perform in front of a small, friendly audience with a view to increasing their confidence. The First Year evening was a great example - the Music Auditorium was bursting with performers, proud parents and grandparents.

art

Sixth Form Art students are ending the term with a trip to Sennen Cove near Penzance. They will surf twice during the stay with The Sennen Surf Centre. Visits will include the Tate and the Barbara Hepworth Museum and Gallery in St Ives. The artists will also visit the Newlyn Gallery, linked to the Newlyn School of Artists, and the Penlee Gallery in Penzance.

The students will be sketching and painting every day during the trip and the work produced will be used for their current unit of work at A2 level. Minibus drivers Ms Barraclough and Mrs Hepworth-Wood are hoping for fine weather and an uneventful journey!

The Art Department's annual trip to Whitby will provide the opportunity for younger pupils to work towards their Art GCSE.



gymnastics

A 'flipping' brilliant effort was made by First Year pupil Harriet Laynes who became West Yorkshire Champion on floor and bars and overall Yorkshire Gymnastics Champion. Harriet narrowly missed out by one mark on being selected for the national finals. She was named as the Gymnast of the Year 2011 by her local club who commented on her exemplary dedication, determination and commitment to training as well as her being a pleasure to coach.

uk rocketry

Congratulations to both of the School's Rocket Teams who successfully completed their qualification flight for the UK Rocketry Finals. BGS Team 2 did exceptionally well incurring no time penalties whilst returning their payload safely to the ground. They secured a place in the final which was held at Bruntingthorpe Proving Ground in Lutterworth, Leicestershire. The BGS Team of Jennifer Bonson, Jamie Davidson, Tom Hobson, Jonathan Lewis and Louise Wilcock finished eleventh overall and also won the prize for Best Static Display.



foundation

As part of his Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award, Fourth Form pupil Alistair Cripps decided to fund raise for the Jamie Carragher 23 Foundation. Alistair organised a five-a-side football event and a race night and successfully raised £1023 for the charity. After contacting the charity Alistair was invited to the players' lounge following a Liverpool FC home match at Anfield. Alistair was delighted to be able to present the cheque personally to Jamie Carragher. Jamie was very impressed with the amount raised and appreciated the amount of effort put in by Alistair to achieve this.



buddhist centre

Charles Smith (3SJB) writes:

The trip to the Manchester Buddhist Centre was a great day out. When we got to the Buddhist Centre we were all surprised at what we found. The Centre was renovated from an old mill into a stylish modern centre for Buddhist meetings and worship. The many layers of the building have areas for meditation, lectures, yoga, counselling, a vegetarian café, a shop and living quarters at the top of the building for Buddhists. On the trip we experienced Buddhist meditation and we did a variety of practical exercises, for example the trust exercise where we learned to trust one another and to understand and take control of our fears. We learned how to meditate in peace and quiet whilst walking and running. What I found most interesting about the Buddhists we met was that they do not always wear traditional robes; they can wear everyday clothes. Many Buddhists do not take vows and are called lay Buddhists and this means that they can live normal lives, having relationships and families. Once Buddhists become enlightened they see life as it really is. This was a fun trip and a great experience for all.



classics in greece

Forty-two pupils from the Third to the Sixth Form travelled to Greece at Easter with the Classics Department. A week of warm Greek sunshine began with the spectacular but windswept temple of Poseidon, on the tip of Attica, at Sounion. A full day was spent in Athens, exploring the Acropolis and (after a souvlaki lunch in Monasteriki Square) the Ancient Agora as well as the very impressive new Acropolis Museum. After exploring the wonderful National Archaeological Museum, the group left Athens for the Peloponnese - to visit Ancient Corinth and the extraordinary theatre at Epidaurus, where the pupils tested its remarkable acoustics with enthusiasm. Then on to Tiryns and Mycenae (citadels dating from the second millennium BC, with the impressive beehive tombs of the Mycenaean royal family), before travelling to the sanctuary of Zeus in Olympia, where the ancient Olympic Games were held every four years in the god's honour: keen to keep up the tradition, some BGS 200m races were run in the ancient stadium (though none of the contact sports, such as the often deadly *pancratium*, were felt to be covered by the trip's risk assessment). Once back on the mainland, they travelled up into the mountains to the sanctuary of Apollo at Delphi, home of the god's famous oracle, and had a chance to explore this stunning site with its temple, treasure houses, theatre and stadium. A final morning in Athens was spent visiting the theatre of Dionysus, the birthplace of drama, where the Fifth Form performed a short play they had written, to round off a glorious week, claimed by staff and pupils to be the best school trip ever.



teddy adventure

In June J2 pupils, teddies and teachers enjoyed an exciting trip to Borrowdale. On arrival they had a Teddy Bears' Picnic and built shelters for the bears in the woods - some of which turned out to be five-star accommodations! Before dinner the children became bats, moths, knights and cavaliers. After dinner they set off for an evening walk and stone skipping across the lake. Everyone paused to take in the beautiful silence on the jetty before heading back to the cottage for a story and a good night's sleep. The next day canoe rafts were built and then paddled to Treasure Island, where everyone worked together to find the keys that opened the treasure chests. The treasure was shared out before they sped back across the water and climbed aboard the minibuses for a sleepy journey back home!

junior school speech day

Bradford Grammar Junior School was thrilled to have Gaynor Barnes speak and present the prizes at their annual Speech Day. Gaynor Barnes has established herself as one of the most recognisable faces of ITV Yorkshire and now presents Calendar's regional news bulletins within GMTV. Gaynor has visited the Senior School before by supporting two of its Media Business Lunches. All the prizewinners were delighted to receive their chosen books from Gaynor at this wonderful occasion.

rhine/moselle

Fifty pupils from the First and Second Forms spent a week during the May half-term holiday exploring the beautiful Rhine and Moselle valleys of western Germany, developing their knowledge of the German language and learning more about this fascinating country. After overnight coach travel from school, the group arrived at the Hotel Anker, set in a breathtaking position on the banks of the river Moselle. The wooded valleys in this area are studded with impressive medieval castles, and the group visited perhaps the most archetypal of them all, Burg Eltz. They also spent time in the pretty towns of Rudesheim, Boppard and Cochem and visited a vineyard in Koblenz and the Ehrenbreitstein fortress in the same city. One of the highlights of the visit was a boat trip along the Rhine, taking in the famous Lorelei statue where a mermaid is supposed to have lured careless sailors to their deaths on the rocks below. The last day of the trip was spent at the Phantasialand theme park where, despite the torrential rain, the pupils had a great time on the rides. Apart from this one day of rain, they enjoyed hot and sunny weather all week long as well as great German hospitality.



ingleborough hall

J3 pupils set off from school to Ingleborough Hall in Clapham on a Friday morning in May. Their first stop was the Falconry Centre where the children were entertained by the birds of prey and an excellent flying display. After a picnic lunch they travelled the short distance to Ingleborough Hall. Once settled in the pupils and staff were taught country dancing and how to do the do-si-do. The following morning with the sun shining the children explored the village of Clapham. On Saturday evening the rain was falling hard as parents arrived for the barbeque. The chef was undeterred and cooked up a sausage and burger feast. Sunday morning began with a walk along the trail up Clapham Beck and on to Ingleborough Cave to explore the scary and dark caves. Tired pupils and staff returned to Bradford after enjoying their fun-packed trip.



lower school sports day



This year's Lower School Sports Day took place on 24 June, and the whole of the Second and Third Form pupils spent a very active day taking part in running, swimming, football, basketball and land-rowing competitions, as well as a variety of field events (discus, javelin, shot, skipping, egg-and-spoon, sack race and the tug-of-war). Not only was the day a good change of pace after exam week, but it also raised money for the charity chosen by the participating pupils, Martin House.

debating

Two teams represented BGS at the finals day of the International Competition for Young Debaters, featuring fifty-two of the best U16 teams drawn from around the world. The team of Dan Sanderson and Yousef Mahmood reached the semi-final and in a close debate were knocked out by the eventual winners. The winners of this year's debating cups (pictured) were as follows: Sophie Barker and Sairish Ul-Sehr-Tahir won the Davis-Moxon Cup, Ed Mancey won the Speaker's Cup, Jack Blackhall won the OBA Cup and Lydia Holloway won the Vice-Presidents' Cup. The debating year ended with the Debating Dinner at The Bradford Club. The School's senior debaters came together with many friends and a record fifty-five plus pupils attended, for a celebratory meal.



forthcoming events calendar

Aug 18	A & AS Level Results
25	GCSE Results
Sep 3	Netball & Rugby 1st XV v OBA
6	Term recommendations
24	NPA Autumn Ball
27	Founders' Day
30	BGS Art Exhibition
Oct 1	Open Day
1	BGS Art Exhibition continues
4	Strings Concert
12	Vocal Concert
29	OBA Oxbridge Dinner
Nov 8	Woodwind Concert
11	Starz in their Eyes
18	Speech Day
26	Christmas Fair
30-2	Drama Society Play
Dec 6	Brass Concert
7	Clock House Concert
14	Christmas Concert
16	RPA Ball
17	RPA Ball