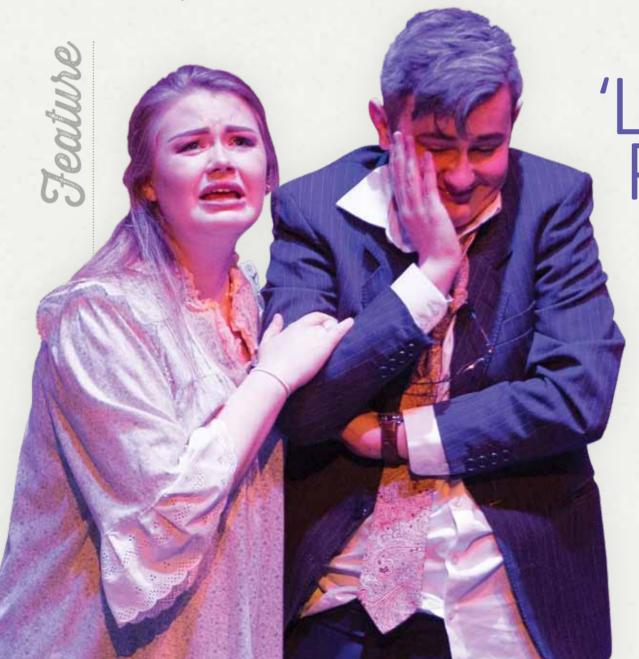
SPRING 2017

CHALLENGE 03-04
THE ARTS 04-05
COMMUNITY 06-07
LIFE 08



Bradford Grammar School





'Live Like Pigs'

For three stunning nights, packed audiences were enthralled by our major drama production of the year, 'Live Like Pigs' ...

TINUED ON PAGE 03

... John Arden's comedy about a group of travellers forced against their will to move from their caravan site into a new council house.

The play was very pertinent for our times, presenting a microcosm of a land divided by selfishness, intolerance, hypocrisy and misunderstanding.





Welcome from the Headmaster

During a lunchtime walk around our fabulous grounds I encountered a myriad of activities which showcased the variety of BGS life ...

... I watched our Sixth Formers rehearse for the forthcoming Netball Parents' Association 'Fashion Show', received a lengthy and interesting education about drone aircraft in the Clock House playground, joined in with kicking a football around on the Senior School tarmac and tweeted a nice picture of some spring blossom outside the PE/Games Office. All of this is a welcome reminder of what really matters in schools at a time when external pressures and noise mount.

These pages provide another taste of the vibrant life that characterises Bradford Grammar School. In uncertain times such as ours, the importance of education should be lost on no one. Hoc Age!



Simon Hinchliffe

LATEST BLOG ..

bradfordgrammar.com/simonsblog



MAY

26 April

2 May eavers' Concert 6 May PA Spring Fair

22 May Brownlee Foundation Mini Triathlon

23 May Parent information session with SLT

17 June JU

Grassington Festival 22 June Parent information ession with SLT 22 June

30 June Senior School Speech Day

Summer Concert

ear 7 Transition Day 5 July Clock House Speech Day 6 July Last day of term

The Deputy Headmaster writes ...

Spread a little kindness

This year's aim for 'Children's Mental Health Week' is 'to encourage everyone — adults and children alike - to spread a little kindness'. An essential element of BGS that we are particularly proud of is the proactive and extensive pastoral system and team within the School. We are very clear that happiness needs to come first.

We are of course not naïve enough to think that all of our pupils are happy all of the time and this is where the pastoral system at BGS plays a vital role - on keeping our eyes open and identifying pupils going through difficult times.



These moments are priceless in terms of significance. Asking 'How are you?' is one of the simplest questions in life but also one of the most powerful

LATEST BLOG ... bradfordgrammar.com/louisblog



Keep yourself up-to-date!

LATEST STORIES .. bradfordgrammar.com

LATEST EVENTS ... bradfordgrammar.com/events

IN THE PRESS ... bradfordgrammar.com/press



... the whole cast excelled...

The whole cast excelled and commanded a good deal of adult material terrifically well. The Sawneys, played by Clem Hall, Lewis Day, Ellie Kehoe, Paddy Partridge and Catriona Ford were stunning in their naturalistic portrayal of a family reacting to forced change.

Haris Sultan, Sylvie Walsh and Siena Anderson gave fine performances as the Gypsy threesome who turn up unannounced on the Sawney's doorstep and Fraser Barton. Christian Cardwell and Maariah Hussain played the unsympathetic roles of Police Sergeant, Council Official and Doctor with bravura.

Hanna Panni and Bhavani Bhardwai, as narrators, held each scene together with excellent tone and movement whilst Ruby Hendry, Billy Lucas and Sarah Whitelaw received the biggest laughs of the night with their splendid depiction of the Jackson family, struggling to come to terms with their new and unwanted neighbours.

Huge credit also to Shelby Deal, Pete Dutton and Tony Deacon for the fantastic set – possibly the best we have ever built – and congratulations to our marvellous technical team of Isla Milwain, Samantha Tullie, Lily Orton, Gowri Kanakath, Elliot Lack and Emelye Gill.

WATCH HIGHLIGHTS.. youtube.com/bradfordgrammar







National debating success

BGS had some fantastic success at Manchester National Schools Debating Competition. We entered five teams (four senior pairs and one novice pair), and everyone performed exceptionally well, with all teams winning at least one of their debates, and most teams winning the majority of their debates.

BGS dominated the competition on nearly all measurable grounds, and were the only society to field two teams in the final, showing the depth of calibre that BGS debating consistently displays!

Pupils win 'Youth Speaks' competition

BGS was proud to host the district round of Bradford Rotary Club's first ever Youth Speaks competition.

Four BGS teams competed, two in the intermediate section, age 11-13, and two in the senior section, age 14-17, with two prizes in each category. We are extremely proud that BGS pupils won all four prizes!

Rotary Club

Winning teams

Intermediate – Harry Burns, Courtney Ellis-Stoneham, Nick Miller (Year 8) Senior – Brandon St Catherine, Alex Broadbridge-Kirbitson, Hugh Berry (Year 12) Best intermediate speaker – Sukruth Kundur (Year 8)

Best senior speaker – Danyal Akhtar (Year 10)

Year 8 pupils' chosen topic was 'The advantages of social media' and the Year 12 topic was 'Educational Reform'. Danyal spoke about 'The Fear of Failure' and Sukruth about 'The moral case against keeping animals in captivity'. It was a very entertaining event and a great experience for

Each team of three had ten minutes at the lectern in which to give an introductory speech from the Chair, their main speech from the Speaker, then a concluding vote of thanks from the third team member. Marks were given for content, style, and teamwork.

We were delighted to welcome three other local schools who entered teams: Carlton Bolling College, Belle Vue Girls School and Beckfoot School. Our winning teams will now progress to the Regional competition next month

READ MORE. bradfordgrammar.com





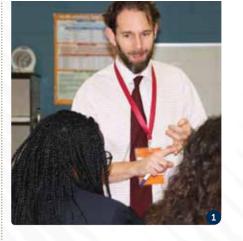
1 'Live Like Pigs' was 2 Pupils taking centre

> 3 'The whole class excelled.

4 Pupils support th







66...77

The workshop was a fantastic opportunity for students to grapple with some really difficult physics problems.

JED BOARDMAN, HEAD OF PHYSICS

Problem solving skills in Physics

Physics insight and understanding comes through doing physics, in particular solving problems.

Isaac is a site designed to offer support and activities in physics problem solving to teachers and to students transitioning from GCSE, through to Sixth Form and onto university. It combines an online study tool with face-to-face events at partner schools and institutions across the UK.

BGS teamed up with Isaac to deliver a free workshop to improve the problem solving skills of A Level physics students. This is done by the students using the site as registered users, and by a series of workshops, which are run nationally. Some students are even offered places on summer schools at Cambridge based on their performance.

Jed Boardman, Head of Physics said: 'The Isaac Physics workshop was designed to demonstrate to students that exponential behaviour occurs in many different contexts which include nuclear chain reactions and population growth. It also demonstrated to students that A Level Mathematics is highly applicable to Physics.'

READ MORE ... bradfordgrammar.com



Table Tennis

Once again, BGS has a team in the ESTTA Team Table Tennis National Finals.

Hibah Mahmood and Sophie Yung qualified as Regional winners of the Under 19 Girls defeating Horsforth School and Longsands Academy Cambridge both 3 to 2.



Hibah and Sophie each managed to win a singles match in their two matches losing to the top seeded player, but defeating the number 2. However, with the new format for Under 19 Girls, a doubles match was the deciding factor. They defeated both pairs 3-0 in some strong doubles play to reach the national finals for the second consecutive year. At the time of writing they are looking forward to competing against three other teams on Saturday 25 March.

Bradford Grammar had four teams at this year's regional finals. Two of the teams had been Zone Winners at BGS on 15 January and two Zone runners up reaching the last 16 of the tournament. The Under 13 Boys had a strong team and a chance of making the finals, however they faced a strong team from Longfield Sports Academy in the first match who had two higher ranked players than BGS pupils Nicholas Miller (England number 17) and Rayhan Khan (29).

Their top two players won two each and although Alex Davies and Isaac Li tried hard they both lost in a 5th set decider to leave BGS 7-1 losers in the first match. Better play resulted in a 4-4 draw against Bedford Modern and a 7-1 defeat of Altrincham Grammar but the team finished 3rd.

On Saturday in the Regional finals in Blackburn the Girls Under 13 and Under 16 teams finished 4th and 3rd respectively battling hard against stronger opposition from St Marys Hull, Lancaster Girls Grammar School, Wade Deacon and Bosworth Academy.

Individually Nicholas Miller and Aliza Khaliq are both West Yorkshire Winners at Under 13. Emily Mellor and Joshua Poulsen were second in Under 16s and Evie Davies was second in Under 11s. Nicholas and Aliza will take part in the individual finals in Aldersley Village on Saturday 29 April.



BGS was delighted to welcome Melvin Burgess, the acclaimed author of teen fiction, as part of this year's World Book Day celebrations. Melvin gave a talk to the whole school in assembly and led writing workshops in the School Library for Years 9, 10 and 12 during their English lessons.

Melvin built his reputation as one of Britain's top writers for teenagers on the back of a novel about drugs. Published in 1996, his heroin novel 'Junk' came just a few months after Danny Boyle's film of Irvine Welsh's 'Trainspotting' shocked audiences with its vision of addiction in Thatcher's Britain.

He said: 'There's a lovely element of reading for pleasure at Bradford Grammar School that's taught in English lessons and I'm a big believer in this.'

'A good school Library, particularly with a good Librarian can be the centre of a school and is an amazing asset to have. You can see the staff and pupils feel lucky to have this at BGS. What do they say? A good Librarian will put the right book into the hands of the right child, and you can then start someone off on a lifetime of reading.'

READ MORE ... bradfordgrammar.com









Public art exhibition raises money to help beat life-threatening illnesses

BGS has raised £897 for St Gemma's Hospice in Leeds, the largest hospice in Yorkshire and one of the largest in England. St Gemma's provides the best possible care and quality of life for local people with cancer and other life-threatening illnesses.

As a local charity, they provide all their services for free and are therefore reliant on the support and generosity of the community to help them raise vital funds.

The money was raised through the School's latest public art exhibition at Sunny Bank Mills, displaying many pupils' outstanding artwork. A group of BGS pupils were on hand to deliver the cheque to Kay Wright, St Gemma's Hospice Ambassador, who was delighted with their efforts.

Josie Barraclough, Head of Art at Bradford Grammar School said: 'The pupils at school and all the staff worked very hard to make the exhibition a community fundraising event and as a result raised a large amount of money for a great cause close to our hearts at the School – we are very proud of everyone.'

READ MORE ... bradfordgrammar.com



Ceramic artwork

Year 10 pupils' beautiful ceramic tiles, created with Kate Malone, one of the UK's leading studio potters and ceramic artists, will become a public art installation here at BGS.

READ MORE ... bradfordgrammar.com







valuable Physics insight!

2 Acclaimed aut Melvin Burgess speaks to pupils

3 Sophie Yung ai Hibah Mahmood celebrate Table Tennis success 4 Josie Barracloi and pupils prese cheque to St

Leading the way with mental health and happiness



The latest in this series of influential speakers is Jeremy Thomas, an award winning author, producer and speaker who visited the School to give a talk on 'How to stay sane in an insane world', based on his own experience of dealing with addiction and manic depression.

Jeremy reflects on the national state of play: 'I think it's getting better but there needs to be far more done in mental health in the NHS for young people. I think schools need to put this in the curriculum from Year 6. The main thing pupils and parents took away from the sessions was that mental illness can affect us all. The fact that you can do something about it is paramount and above all prevention is better than cure.'

'BGS have a sleeves rolled up, hands on approach that will ensure pupils know what to do and feel able to speak up in the event of mental health problems. They value and respect pupils' privacy, but make it very clear what someone has to do to get help.'

The strategies and advice Jeremy offered about how to deal with mental health and get further advice raised awareness to pupils, staff and parents alike.

Jane Chapman, Assistant Head (Pastoral) said: 'In his talks he has shared his own story with parents and pupils and given advice on practical measures to combat poor mental health and deal with depression, anxiety and stress. The feedback has been excellent.'

READ MORE ... bradfordgrammar.com





A former Chartered Accountant has started a new chapter in retirement, recruiting volunteers, including pupils on work experience from Bradford Grammar School, to help him run the local community library in Idle.

At the age of 82, Jim Dowzall has brought together a team of 26 part-timers. The library opened in March at the Wright Watson Enterprise Centre and operates two and a half days a week. It's going from strength to strength while other Bradford libraries face uncertain futures because of Council cutbacks.

The project receives support from Inspired Neighbourhoods, which owns the building on Albion Street, Thorpe Garth. It already has about 60 members, ranging from children to a 94-year-old. Bradford Central Libraries updates the library's shelf stock, which includes 1,500 books for adults, 300 books for children and 240 audio tapes. People can also use a bank of computers to find work, apply online and do research.

The new community library was opened on World Book Day this year by the then Lord Mayor of Bradford, Councillor Joanne Dodds Cllr Jeanette Sunderland, who is chairman of Inspired Communities, helped co-ordinate the creation of the new community facility on the enterprise centre's ground.

She said: 'It's a great success. It's good to see people are also using the library to access other services like using the computers and getting benefits advice.'



Barnardo's Young Carers Mentoring Scheme

The Barnardo's Young Carers mentoring scheme has had another successful year in helping young carers in the Bradford area.

The School's Year 13 students help young carers, who care for ill and disabled family members by offering a one to one weekly mentoring session to assist with homework and revision.

66...77

... students are able to give something back to the local community ...

It ensures that young carers do not fall behind in their own school work and gives them confidence in their ability. The Year 13 students are able to give something back to the local community and assist others less fortunate than themselves.

This year the scheme has been nominated for the prestigious Queens Award for Voluntary Service – the highest award given to volunteers across the UK. If we win the award, the Queen will send a letter to School.

READ MORE ... bradfordgrammar.com





Success of school linking programme

Pupils from Oasis Academy Lister Park and Bradford Grammar School met to challenge social and personal perceptions through beautiful artwork. Bradford Museums & Galleries Learning team and Arts Council Bradford supported the school linking event, hosted at Cartwright Hall Art Gallery.

It gave 60 pupils a chance to study works of art in the gallery while meeting new people and making new friends, laying the foundations for further collaborations during the school year.

Year 8 pupil Grace Dawson said: 'I really loved the experience and it's one of the best things I've ever taken part in.' Many pupils felt it was a great chance to discover different cultures, identities and perspectives with young people in their beloved city.

Year 8 pupil Pippa Threlfall commented, 'It was really exciting getting to know people who come from different backgrounds and finding similarities you have with them, not just as people but also through studying the art work. You get to share your interests in a fun way.'

Mike de Villiers, Manningham Youth Talks Leader said: 'It has been a chance to encounter each other in a neutral, safe place. Using art to stimulate conversations, meet new people and create images is wonderful. This is the first of three days that we will get together.'

Emma Milford, Teacher of Geography and Manningham Youth Talks
Leader was extremely pleased with the outcome: 'This event shows that
collaboration and cooperation, as well as an appreciation for art, are alive
and kicking in Manningham. In this day and age when people often
judge in advance of meeting people, this simple concept helps to
challenge preconceptions and break down barriers.'

CAPTIONS

1 'BGS have a sleever rolled up, hands on approach that will ensure pupils know what to do and feel able to speak up in the event of mental health problems ...'

2 Pupils give back to

the local communit

3 'I really loved

the experience and it's one of the best things I've ever taken part in ...'

66 ... ??

At BGS it's great to know that they incorporate resilience, self-esteem and essential key coping strategies from a young age, subtly laying the foundations for later life.

JEREMY THOMAS, AUTHOR

Cyber crime

BGS was pleased to host an evening with Bradford District Cyber Problem Solvers from West Yorkshire Police. The special team of Police Community Support Officers has been set up to educate people in the district about the dangers online, particularly targeting young people to try to prevent them from becoming victims.



The talk gave BGS parents an overview of the risks of the virtual world as well as the misuse of social media and the impact it can have on the victim.

66...??

It has equipped parents to talk to their children, and to help understand what they are doing online.

JANE CHAPMAN

PCSOs Steve Atkinson and Izac Spencer discussed what creates the virtual world, including online gaming, what we know about the internet and its dark side, online and social media laws and punishments, and tips to help keep children safe while online.

Jane Chapman, Assistant Head (Pastoral) said: 'The session gave parents a really excellent insight into potential risks for their children, and themselves, in the cyber world, and it has equipped them to talk to their children, and help to understand and monitor what they are doing online in the future.

The ultimate selfie

On a beautiful Wednesday morning, 11 cadets from BGS CCF Air Force section set off for an air experience flying in **RAF Grob Tutors at RAF** Linton-on-Ouse.

The weather was perfect and all could feel the air of excitement, as the RAF spoke about the aerobatics, air navigation and the general fun and excitement of taking the controls in the air that was ahead of them.

One by one, cadets walked out to their awaiting aircraft, one by one they returned with bigger and bigger smiles and tales of how they had done loops, rolls and many other exciting manoeuvres that you could not complete with the best Alton Towers pass.

Berlin

Over February half term 25 Sixth Form historians and linguists had an intensive introduction to the history and culture of Berlin.

They were all struck by the importance Germany places on remembering, and 'coming to terms with' its past, from the bombed out ruin of the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church to the fascinating exhibition of the Nazi Terror State on the site of the former Gestapo headquarters.

They also visited the thoughtprovoking Holocaust memorial in the heart of Berlin where the students were explicitly warned of the dangers of government surveillance in the modern digital age. In between, we managed plenty of cake, currywurst and even some upmarket shopping







German Workshop

On Tuesday 17 January, Year 13 German students welcomed Dr Helen Finch from the University of Leeds to School.

She led a workshop on the students' A Level text 'Die verlorene Ehre der Katharina Blum' by Heinrich Böll, designed to both deepen their understanding and give them an introduction to university-level literature study, which a good number of our students will be experiencing first-hand next year as they begin their Modern Languages degrees.

Top speakers visit BGS

This term we have been delighted to welcome an array of esteemed speakers.

The Brexit Special Question Time panel event with three local parliamentarians was a unique opportunity for students to engage with a range of robust viewpoints and to quiz those at the forefront of triggering Article 50. OB Ariyo Onafokowan's talk on combining elements of Medicine and Dentistry, as well as Dr Rob Kehoe's talk on clinical psychiatry opened students' eyes to the many opportunities for specialisation in the clinical field.

The higher apprenticeships in Law are becoming increasingly popular and we are grateful to local law firms for highlighting this attractive new path into the profession. With a range of talks on volunteering, gap year and career opportunities; there was plenty for students to consider in terms of transferable skills, work-readiness and their options after leaving BGS.

READ MORE ... bradfordgrammar.com





CAPTIONS 1 'The session gave parents a really excellent insight into potential risks for their children, and themselves.

2 The ultimate selfie! 3 Berlin trip

4 Perfect conditions for the BGS Ski trip

5 Deepening pupils understanding for university-level literature study



During February half term, 42 pupils from Years 7 to 10 hit the slopes for a week's skiing in Claviere, Italy. The conditions were perfect; blue skies, well-groomed piste and hardly anyone else there, leaving us free to work on our technique and

to attempt a few tricks.

Ski trip

The highlights of the week included skiing the Milky Way where pupils had the opportunity to ski the 2006 Turin Winter Olympics downhill run. Pupils were also able to ski over the border in Montgenèvre, France. In the evening, there was an exciting program of après ski, including: bum boarding, ice skating, a photography competition and a team game called Panic.

BGS hosts politicians at 'Question Time'

On 3 February, as part of our enrichment programme, Mr Simpson organised for Years 12 and 13 to take part in a **Bradford Grammar School** style Question Time.

On the panel we had Labour MP John Mann, Conservative MP Stuart Andrew and Liberal Democrat Lord Wallace of Saltaire. Filling David Dimbleby's role were Theo Azfar and Billy Lucas, both from Year 12.

The event was very informative and involved discussions on a wide range of topics including the Labour Party, electoral systems, representation of women in politics and of course Brexit and Donald Trump.

BILLY LUCAS, YEAR 12



To understand the true benefits of being open about well-being and mental health in schools, you have to hear it through the voices of pupils, parents, teachers and staff.

VISIT HAPPINESS ONLINE ...

bradfordgrammar.com/happiness





'We are acutely aware that members of the public, young people, parents and teachers all have important stories to tell about happiness and well-being in School, and in their everyday lives.'

'We want to play our part by sharing our voices, through this public resource, to benefit everyone, not just the few, and to help raise awareness within our local community, Yorkshire and nationwide.

BGS Headmaster Simon Hinchliffe



Well-being and Mental Health

Our team of form tutors, Heads of Year, school nurses, counsellors and Learning Support Department pupils' happiness and progress as happiness is the key to academic excellence, which is why we prioritise the well-being and mental health of all our pupils.

PUPIL'S PERSPECTIVE

'I'm more confident in myself because if something did happen to me then I know that there would be people at BGS to talk

PARENT'S PERSPECTIVE

'BGS are on top of mental health issues and I think the support that pupils get from the school is incredibly balanced."

STAFF PERSPECTIVE

'Good mental health is paramount and I'm really glad that this school is putting it at the fore. If you see somebody smiling in the corridor it becomes contagious, and walking around BGS people see that."



Creativity and the Arts

The arts may be under threat nationally but they are thriving at BGS where subjects including Drama, Music and Art provide a superb platform for fostering creativity where learning is an active process.

'It makes you more creative and opens up a different side to you, where you learn to express how you feel.

PARENT'S PERSPECTIVE

'You come to BGS and you are blown away by the creativity. You think are these the children we speak to on a regular basis because they produce such fantastic work!'

STAFF PERSPECTIVE

'I think a lot of people would forget, if you clicked your fingers, what would disappear without an art background, interest or industry, and I think it would be quite a bare world.



PUPIL'S PERSPECTIVE Community Outreach and Enrichment

We believe that we have a role in supporting our local community including charities and associated organisations, bringing communities together and helping to provide spaces for conversation.

PUPIL'S PERSPECTIVE

'Volunteering our time really teaches us to balance school life with the wider community and encourages us to do this for this for the rest of our lives.

PARENT'S PERSPECTIVE

involved with the wider community really benefits my child and boosts their confidence and well-being."

STAFF PERSPECTIVE

engage with the community, to meet people from different backgrounds and learn about compassion and service.



'The fact that the school gets



Sport and Healthy Living

Exercise and happiness go hand in hand; we believe everyone should have the opportunity to seek out a sport they enjoy, regardless of their ability. We inspire students to engage in sport, while giving rising stars the chance to compete on a national and global stage, following in the footsteps of Olympic medal-winning alumni.



PUPIL'S PERSPECTIVE

'When I've finished school it would be great to represent my country in cross country running and try to make people in Britain proud."

PARENT'S PERSPECTIVE

'If you haven't got a child that's great at sport that's fine as they always have a chance to get involved and the facilities are absolutely fantastic.

STAFF PERSPECTIVE

When pupils represent the school they meet all different children from others schools, which reinforces the teamwork ethos, to support each other and build strong friendships."

Personalised Teaching

Our tailored approach enhances progress, achievement and participation based on pupils needs, interests and abilities where we encourage active commitment from pupils. responsiveness from teachers and engagement from parents.

PUPIL'S PERSPECTIVE

'The teachers are more than willing to give up their personal time to help us excel even further, and this is what gives BGS such specialised teaching

PARENT'S PERSPECTIVE

'The most important thing for my daughter at school is having great relationships with her teachers. She used to hide behind me and now she sings in front of hundreds of people

STAFF PERSPECTIVE

'Everyone wants to be told vou've done that really well, you've made great progress and I'm really pleased with you - and the pride in their faces is marvellous.



'It would be a hallmark of our progress if by 2020 we could truly say that England is leading the world in improving the outcomes for children and young people with mental health problems.'

Future in Mind





A happiness campaign for everyone...

We want to play our part by sharing our voices, through this public resource, to benefit everyone, not just the few.



The culmination of this campaign follows an in-depth research process with input from the whole School community, including over 100 pupils, parents and teachers and staff.

We're here to educate the whole child and our vision for education is all about nurturing young people who are happy, feel valued and supported. Well-being is a prerequisite of academic excellence and the premium we place on pastoral care, pupil welfare and excellent relations with parents is integral to who we are.

I hope that you will find this public resource interesting and useful. If so, please help us to spread the word far and wide.

We are acutely aware that members of the public, young people, parents and teachers all have important stories to tell about happiness and well-being in School, and in their everyday lives.

We want to play our part by sharing our voices, through this public resource, to benefit everyone, not just the few, and to help raise awareness within our local community, Yorkshire and

bradfordgrammar.com/happiness

Sim Hint

Simon Hinchliffe
Headmaster

hm@bradfordgrammar.com @sh_hinchliffe 01274 553702

Happeness

bradfordgrammar.com/happiness