

THE SUNDAY TIMES
Northern
Independent School
of the Year
2018



Bradford
Grammar
School



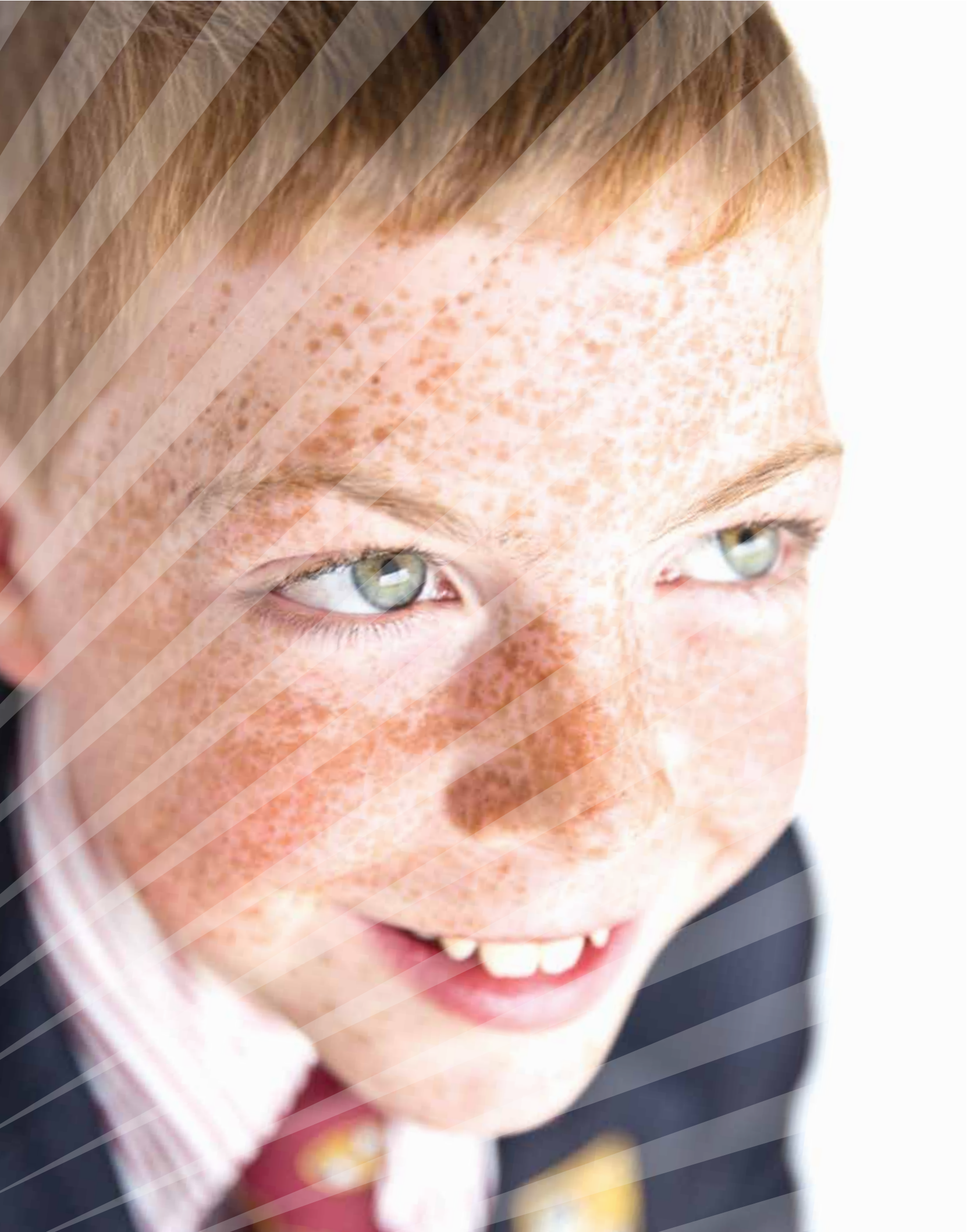
The Bradfordian

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BD9 4JP

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Dr Simon Hinchliffe
Headmaster
Extract from Speech Day 2017

We like to learn...

Learning here is varied and stimulating, designed to stretch but also support at all levels; it is enjoyable and rewarding. Let me keep it simple: we like to learn at BGS, we do interesting things, the dynamic is right.

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School Notes



From the Headmaster ...

Welcome to the latest edition of 'The Bradfordian'.

This splendid publication marks time, which rushes past in a busy school like ours, and provides a lovely reflection on the year gone by.

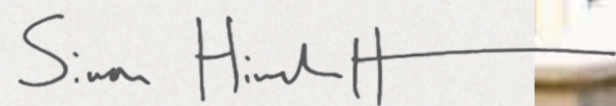
When past editions of the annual Bradfordian are lined up, you get a sense of a school that moves with the times and embraces informed change as part of its natural rhythm. Paradoxically, this seems to be one of our consistent, defining features over the years. However, some things don't change, nor should they.

Our values are deeply rooted. We aspire to excellence but achieve it in a no-nonsense, just get on and do it, 'Hoc Age' fashion. There is honesty and integrity in the way Bradford Grammar School (BGS) goes about its business. The pages that follow attest to such an approach. Lives at BGS are full and rich, learning is varied and success is defined and achieved in many different ways. School life at BGS has meaning and provides many happy memories.

Our pupils heard wise and entertaining words on this theme from Old Bradfordian (OB), actor, writer and producer John Hollingworth at Speech Day. The work ethic of our charismatic, but also modest speaker, was an example to all. As Headmaster, I enjoy the privilege of meeting many OBs from all walks of life. The varied roads they have travelled after BGS speaks volumes about the way in which this wonderful school fosters independence and helps young people from a diverse range of backgrounds to find their own way forward. It always has.

Fundamentally, we know who we are and what we are about. We work hard, play fair, look after each other and try to do some good in our communities. The pages that follow contain examples of these themes, offer a snapshot of the comings and goings of our school and pay tribute to the staff and pupils that make BGS such a special place.

Enjoy.



Dr Simon Hinchliffe
BA, MEd, PhD, FRSA
Headmaster



Speech Day 2017 Headmaster's Speech

Vice Lord-Lieutenant, High Sheriff, Lord Mayor, John Hollingworth, Lady Morrison, Honoured Guests, Governors, Ladies and Gentlemen and members of the School. Please allow me to add my welcome to that of Lady Morrison who I would also like to thank for her insights into the condition of leadership and generous words of support. I am indebted to the Chairman and The Board for their wise counsel and the common good sense they bring to school governance. BGS benefits greatly from their service.

It has been another great year for BGS. I am bound to say that I know, but it just so happens to be true. We started back in September with a celebration of the hard work and progress of our pupils that gave rise to another outstanding set of GCSE and A Level results. Our Year 11 cohort enjoyed a record-breaking year with an impressive 46 percent of all GCSEs being awarded an A*, representing a two percent increase on the previous year's record-breaking result. An equally impressive 71 percent of all grades were at A/A*.

...

Speech Day 2017

Headmaster's Speech continued ...

Over half of our A Level examinations were graded A* or A, allowing the vast majority of our students to enter their university of choice. Terrifically successful at A and AS Levels, BGS was recognised as having the highest average university admission points per student of any school in West Yorkshire. Yet another accolade for our highly successful Sixth Formers.

BGS adds value. Durham University reported that, even allowing for prior ability, socio-economic status and gender, each GCSE result is on average two thirds of a grade better in independent schools than elsewhere – significant added value equivalent to two extra year's secondary education. At BGS, GCSE results for cohorts of Year 11 students are one whole grade better and value added across the board remains strong.

I mentioned A/A* grades earlier, but when you look at all grades in more detail, it is clear to see that the vast majority of these represent meaningful and significant achievements for the students who have gained them. We talk a lot about making the most of life, making the most of school, and any result that someone has worked hard to achieve deserves to be recognised, irrespective of the grade itself. Today we celebrate achievement in the broadest sense and that is reflected in the variety of prizes to be awarded shortly.

We are careful not to misconstrue what success and achievement at BGS truly represents. We do not grind out good results and we don't just care about As and A*s. Learning here is varied and stimulating, designed to stretch but also support at all levels; it is enjoyable and rewarding. Let me keep it simple: we like to learn at BGS, we do interesting things, the dynamic is right. Conceived thus, learning is a process in which identities are forged, capable and decent people are nurtured.

Education BGS-style is so much more than a simple acquisition of knowledge and specific skills, or a mechanical collection of qualifications.

Our young people do themselves proud because relationships in the classroom are right and people pull in the same direction. It is the stories behind the grades, behind the added value, behind the accolades at all levels that we are celebrating today. We are recognising students' progress, dedication and capacity to go the extra mile. We are acknowledging the process of learning what it takes to succeed and not just the outcome.

Furthermore, it is not just the academic life of the School that grabs our attention today. Back in September the triumphs of Old Bradfordians Alistair and Jonny Brownlee were still fresh in our memories and they continue to provide a reminder, if ever it was needed, that BGS sets you up for so much more than scholastic success alone.

Looking back at this calendar year, the newly instituted Open Science Lectures, most recently, 'The Birth and Death of a Solar System' have proven to be popular. Visits to BGS last year by TV historian Lucy Worsley and author Melvyn Burgess have continued in 2017 with guest speakers like economist and co-founder of 'The Intergenerational Foundation' Angus Hanton and leading ceramic artist, and co-presenter of the BBC's 'Great Pottery Throw Down', Kate Malone, to name but a few. This continues today and we are delighted to welcome John Hollingworth back to BGS.

We held a mock general election, with some very lively hustings, and accurately predicted the result, unlike this time last year with our BGS Brexit voting patterns. In 2017, we have also welcomed civic figures, community leaders, council officers and planners to debate the pros and cons of Bradford's urban regeneration strategy and mimicked BBC Question Time with local MPs and Lord Wallace of Saltaire.

We have hosted a Brownlee mini-triathlon and dispatched a massed horde of Years 5, 7 and 8 to run around Lister Park on World Orienteering Day. Various students have competed at regional, national and international levels for school and local clubs at windsurfing, swimming, athletics, jiu jitsu, table tennis, distance running, hockey, rugby, cricket and netball. We have held regional cricket and tennis competitions, raced dragon boats and splashed spectacular ground art all over the Governor's Lawn for The Tour de Yorkshire, in which current students rode as part of the official peloton launch and Old Bradfordian Abby-Mae Parkinson competed in the women's race. Finally, our rowers have gone from strength to strength with a dedicated team smashing an indoor rowing record during a gruelling overnight, round the clock marathon. Simply amazing.

Turning to the performing arts, our Concert Band performed brilliantly in almost Mediterranean weather at the recent Grassington Festival. Concerts and recitals continue to delight and impress. The Spring Leavers' Concert was nothing short of magical and I got quite emotional when standing up at the end to pitch in with a few words. Most recently, we enjoyed the terrific Summer Concert in the Hockney Theatre. Last year Shakespeare's Macbeth was fantastic and a more recent, superb BGS drama production of 'Live Like Pigs' entertained and provoked in equal measure, as it was meant to.

Meanwhile bronze and gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award groups have tramped the long miles of Yorkshire and Cumbria respectively whilst seeking to complete this thoroughly worthwhile programme. Fifty plus BGS clubs and societies have filled any remaining free time, including Junior Debating, which is once again established and here to stay. We have battled it out against other schools at maths, physics and chemistry challenges and Olympiads, cyber games, Interact Rotary Club speaking competitions and robot wars.

We have supported Junior Chamber International (JCI) Bradford Easter Appeal, Guidedogs, an Age UK befriending project, The Barnardo's Young Carers Scheme, reading programmes in local primaries and activities at Chellow Heights Special School.

As for trips, this past school year BGS pupils have played netball in Australia, rugby in Romania and we have rowed in the Netherlands. The Design and Technology Department have gone to Italy, Modern Languages to France and Germany, History and Religious Studies went to Berlin, various ski trips have visited the Alps and our geographers travelled to Iceland. Life at BGS is full and rich. Opportunities abound to get involved as our motto 'Hoc Age' encourages.

I firmly believe that the programme we have at BGS, both inside and outside of the classroom, offers plenty of opportunity for character development and for nurturing interesting and personable young people. Independent schools are good at this and in much the same way that Durham University is able to quantify the value schools add academically, the Independent Schools Council (ISC) has tried to do much the same looking at 'mental toughness', a concept comprising attributes such as mindset, learned optimism and resilience. The findings were interesting with 'mental toughness' developing differently in boys and girls over different timescales, but with pupils at independent schools scoring more highly than their counterparts elsewhere. The study concluded that the mental toughness measure accounted for 25 percent of the variation in students' attainment, further evidence that a full co-curricular life and successful academic performance go hand in hand.

At this point in the address, I would like to pay tribute to my excellent colleagues in all departments at school, support staff and teachers, who enable the pupils at Bradford Grammar School to experience and achieve so much. They are a tremendous set of people who care deeply about doing the best job they can. I thank them all for their hard work and dedication.

As ever, this year we say goodbye to some Senior School teachers.

Thomas Flynn (Physics), Georgina Wilkinson (PE and Games), Habibha Khatum (English), Tasawar Malik (Religious Studies), Sean Robinson (Art), Barbara Massey (Geography) and Neil Mudd (English) have only been with us for a short period of time. Nevertheless, all have done sterling work within their respective academic departments and many have contributed a great deal to our co-curricular programme. For this, I am hugely grateful.

Other 2017 leavers have been here a little longer. Amy Lancelot (English) left us at Easter to take up a post at The Leeds Playhouse. Eleanor Trafford (English), Amy Corrigan (Modern Languages) and Sara Thomas (Biology) leave us to take up positions at other schools. Helen Boughton and Caroline Taylor (PE and Games) have contributed significantly to the School and the PE and Games Department. These colleagues have made a difference at BGS. For this, I offer my sincere thanks.

Finally, four colleagues are retiring this year who between them have served BGS for 117 years. All deserve a special mention.

Nancy Atkinson has worked in the Library for 25 years. The Library and our Librarians remain very much at the heart of BGS and Nancy has been a constant presence at school guiding staff and pupils alike in their reading choices. The Clarkson Library has changed greatly in recent times but the warmth of the welcome remains the same as ever, due in no small part to Nancy.

Saeko Woodhead (Modern Languages) has taught Japanese at BGS for 26 years as part of the wider Sixth Form curriculum. Additionally, Saeko has ably assisted the Modern Languages Department during open days and has been a much-respected member of that team.

David Leake has worked in the Design and Technology Department for 26 years. His manufacturing skills and knowledge are second to none and David's contribution to the development and increased popularity of DT cannot be overstated. He has also committed a tremendous amount of his time and energy to BGS outside the workshop and generously supported overseas expeditions and rowing.

Andy Smith joined BGS in 1977. For 40 years, he has taught countless BGS Geographers and Geologists who speak highly of him as an expert teacher. How can I possibly do justice to Andy Smith's long and loyal service in a few brief words? I cannot. However, Andy is respected as a 'BGS legend' who has made a lasting impression on generations of pupils who have passed through this Price Hall over the years.

To all our colleagues who are leaving we wish every success and happiness wherever life takes them. Andy, David, Saeko and Nancy, we hope you enjoy a long, healthy and happy retirement. It is justly deserved.

I hope I have provided a flavour of the lively comings and goings at BGS and paid fair tribute to the pupils and staff who make this place so special. Life moves at pace in schools. Consequently, we all too rarely pause, look up and take in a wider view. That is what I will now try to attempt, if only for a moment.

BGS is one of the great schools of the north and we apply our craft for the benefit of our city, county and country. Informed by our values of excellence, compassion, opportunity, determination and service, our pupils leave BGS as well-rounded young women and men imbued with an innate sense of proportion and fair play. This has long been the case and remains one of the central tenets of our educational philosophy. Preparing young people for the world and its increasing complexity is what we are about. Nurturing informed, characterful and decent young people will always be at the core of what we do, regardless of any external forces acting upon us. In so doing, we stay true to our heritage, foundation and independence.

Speech Day 2017

Headmaster's Speech continued ...

Political pressures and manifesto pledges signal fresh challenges for the independent sector; the economic climate outside of the M25 provides more established ones. Whilst there are record numbers in Independent Schools Council (ISC) independent schools nationally, nearly 523,000 at the last count, the sector in Yorkshire and Humberside continues to contract, now at a rate greater than one and a half percent annually, the most rapid in any UK region.

Affordability, as I've mentioned in previous speeches, remains our key challenge and this is why, even though BGS continues to bear additional costs outside of our control, the fee increase has for a second year been kept to one percent at a time when the average nationally is 3.5 percent. No one wants to raise the fee, but we control costs and our increase is once again the lowest for many a mile indicating, I hope you might agree, our sensitivity to those who invest in independent education for their children.

Affordability and widening access are challenges that BGS is meeting. Working with our partners, we are also engaged in national conversations about the role that independent schools play in matters of social mobility and justice. The sector has supporters and detractors; and everyone cuts their cloth on this issue in the media, very often to score points in the popular vote.

Thankfully, there has been some objective reporting amongst the rhetoric and the vast majority of commentators, engaged on all sides of the argument, agree on one thing: independent education works. Often quoted statistics to prove the point include the fact that graduates from our sector are two and a half times more likely to attend a leading university than their peers and earn roughly 30 percent more at the age of 40.

Regardless, debate and disconnect persist in some quarters. The causes are varied but often originate in the view held by some observers that educational advantage is a zero sum game in which one school, or group of schools, forges ahead at the expense of others. This belief is flawed. System-wide improvement can be realised for all schools in the UK but first we need to shed some baggage.

Secondary education in Britain today is bewilderingly diverse. As a former Head of Sixth Form, I know that UCAS has long since abandoned any misleading binary categorisation of UK schools – state vs private – and instead recognises seven main school types. However, even this model lacks the resolution to accommodate the true complexity and subtlety in our nation's many varied schools. Schools today are organised and funded in a multitude of ways.

Similarly, selectivity is not synonymous with the payment of school fees and some maintained schools are far more selective than their independent neighbours. There are many different ways to select. In this complex landscape, it is simply nonsensical and gimmicky to characterise one type of educational background as providing a particular form of advantage over another. It is unsophisticated. BGS represents one type of school amongst many but our model of success can be shared. The national educational system can evolve if we develop an increased capacity to learn from and work with each other.

Research published earlier this month by The Social Mobility Commission demonstrated why this is essential. Britain's 'deep social mobility problem' is getting worse for young people, said Alan Milburn, chairman of the commission. The research found that 51 percent of 18 to 24 year olds believe social background determines chances of success in life, suggesting a lack of faith in the potential for education to improve one's prospects. According to the commission's findings, there is a widespread belief that people from poor backgrounds have few educational opportunities and little chance of getting a well-paid job, with only 30 percent of 18 to 24 year olds believing it is becoming easier to move up in British society.

Worryingly, despite decades of educational reform, the attainment gap between children with free school meals and those without, whilst narrowing at primary age, has stubbornly refused to budge at GCSE. So, what does the independent sector bring to this narrative?

By virtue of increased levels of means tested fee assistance, which some schools call bursaries, many independent schools are more socio-economically diverse than their nearby state counterparts. Those young people identified in the various research papers as eligible for free school meals, and underachieving, are the same ones to whom schools like BGS add so much value and provide an education that is nothing short of transformational for them and their families.

An editorial piece in The Times Educational Supplement recently repeated a familiar argument that 'you can only move up in society if you know something of the life to which you aspire'. Too many of our nation's schools are not sufficiently diverse or, despite their very best efforts, struggle to provide opportunities for sufficient cultural capital to accrue to facilitate improved levels of social mobility. Too many schools in the UK represent a narrow subset of postcodes, housing type, or a particular section of society, and diversity is limited as a consequence.

Schools like BGS however are genuine melting pots and foster social mobility for students from all sections of society. I make this point not in a self-celebratory mood, but in the hope that influencers and education leaders might perceive that the likes of BGS have something to offer society, which is as relevant now as the day of our foundation by Royal Charter in 1662. If the educational system in the UK was set up to embrace the independent sector, to collaborate in surefooted, trusting partnerships, and not the politicised forced marriages of pre-election slogans, then I believe our schools would be better placed to help the UK, and to advance the cause of Bradford's children.

Educating children from a variety of families speaks to the very essence of our understanding of education as a charitable purpose, rooted in English statute since 1601. Looking back, Elizabethans identified charitable works for:

'... the relief of aged, impotent, and poor ... the maintenance of sick and maimed soldiers and mariners; schools of learning; free schools and scholars in universities; the repair of bridges, ports, havens, causeways, churches, sea banks, and highways; the education and preferment of orphans; the relief, stock, or maintenance of houses of correction; marriages of poor maids; support, aid, and help of young tradesmen, handicraftsmen and persons decayed ...'

The 1601 Act was repealed by Lord McNaughton in 1888, although the notion of the advancement of education as a charitable cause was preserved. Many would posit that all schools across the independent/state borderline, which is a gross simplification in any case, and including colleagues and universities of various kinds, continue to fit neatly under the umbrella of charitable purpose.

Independent schools like BGS are doing right by young people. We are a diverse body of schools – day, boarding, single sex, co-educational, selective, non-selective, multicultural, multinational, urban, rural, large and small. Last year we dedicated over £380 million to means-tested fee assistance to ensure a broad socio-economic mix in our schools. BGS is one of those institutions that has ambitions to increase levels of support of this kind and I am hugely grateful to those Old Bradfordians who are helping us to realise this vision for our school.

We continue to talk to the Department for Education and support the ISC pre-election pledge to work with the DfE to jointly fund 10,000 additional places in our schools, helping to address the expected shortfall of 750,000 school places over the next ten years. We remain hopeful of establishing a new working relationship with the Government. In the meantime, we collaborate openly and for mutual benefit with schools and partners in our immediate locality. Through the continuing generosity of Old Bradfordians we provide assistance to those families whose children would not otherwise be able to access the life changing opportunities available at our school.

We strive to fulfil our noble and historic purpose and stay true to our charitable foundation; we continue to dedicate our service as teachers to children from a variety of backgrounds in our city region. We add value to our students, we add value to our nation, whilst at the same time searching for opportunities to do more; we work towards a better future for ourselves and for others; we are Bradford Grammar School.



Dr Simon Hinchliffe
BA, MEd, PhD, FRSA
Headmaster

From the Junior School Headmistress ...

Junior School Speech Day 2017 Junior School Headmistress' Speech

Good evening Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen, boys and girls.
Welcome to Junior School Speech Day.

As many of you are aware, I have worked in many different guises at Bradford Grammar School over the last 14 years. However, I think it would be fair to say that not a lot is known about me – I am a bit of an unknown quantity.

It seems that every new Head in their first speech introduces themselves and gives a resume of their life. Tonight is about the children and not me and therefore, I will endeavour to keep it short.

From the age of six, my ambition was to become a Doctor, this changed to being, more specifically, a Doctor in the Army. As you can see, my life has not taken me on this path, but I have had a very diverse, challenging and memorable road to where I am now. Like the children here, I was very fortunate to have been educated in the independent sector. My infant and junior school years were spent in and around Bristol, where life was carefree and the schools I attended were small, friendly and family run establishments. When I say family, I mean convent schools.

At the age of four I experienced my first day in school, dressed in my blazer and boater I entered the reception class to discover the bed in the corner of the classroom. This was where I could be found most afternoons for the rest of the year.

Infant and junior school sports days were one of the special events of the year where we had the usual sack race, egg and spoon race, but the track and field events did not feature. Therefore, my claim to fame was the special event, which I won every year. We were issued with a pinny full of clothes pegs and laundry and the first person to peg their washing on the line was the winner! I am not sure that this would be politically correct today.

I am always delighted and amused when I watch the Clock House children heading off and returning from their music lessons. There is always such joy and enthusiasm on their faces. My piano lessons were never as successful. It was with fear that I was summoned to my weekly music lessons, the teacher was formidable. Each lesson was one hour long and I quickly learnt to tell the time, as it was my only way of counting down until I could escape. One of my first reports read – 'Kerry will be very good at the piano once she learns to open the lid!'

My secondary school education started in Clifton where both academically and sporting wise I went from strength to strength. North Yorkshire was the setting for the remainder of my senior school education and I can remember homework sessions very fondly. Whilst the other children were being supervised in prep sessions, my sister I, on a regular basis, used to take ourselves down to Betty's. Safeguarding and registration were not as stringent then. However, I can recommend the cakes!

My A Level choices were influenced by the advice from members of my family who are in the medical profession and I was dissuaded from following a medical career path. So my choice of university degree changed somewhat and I used my scuba diving hobby along with my other interests to study Ocean Science at the University of North Wales. My kayaking and outdoor skills were very much enhanced in these three years.



My MSc in Marine Resource Management took me to Edinburgh and the Orkney Islands and it was whilst writing my final dissertation that my interests and hobbies from my earlier years began to re-emerge. I began to play tennis again and was encouraged to train to be a tennis coach. This was the point in my life when I discovered my passion for teaching; working with children and adults was an eye opener.

I studied for a PGCE and went on to work in several junior schools, both state and independent, before arriving at Bradford Grammar School as a young, enthusiastic teacher, with no wrinkles and no grey hair.

I have taught all year groups, been a Subject Coordinator, Director of Teaching and Learning, Deputy Head and now I stand here as the Headmistress.

Throughout all of this time, I still harboured a passion for the medical aspects of life and I could not let this ambition go without trying it. Several weeks spent in Hereford training to be a remote area medic, performing chest drains and cricothyrotomies, cured me of my medical desire. I now realise I am too old for survival training and five star hotels are more comfortable.

My life has been the true example of never giving up. Whatever your ambition is in life if you keep working hard there are always ways of experiencing different opportunities. Resilience and determination have stood me in good stead and in my wildest dreams I never thought I would be a Headmistress.

...

Speech Day 2017

Junior School Headmistress' Speech continued ...

Now would seem a fitting time to thank my colleagues for all their support and hard work over this last year. It is due to their dedication and professionalism that I can stand here tonight and celebrate with you the successes of our children. Also, I would like to thank my non-teaching colleagues throughout the School and a special thank you to the Board of Governors, Simon Hinchliffe and all the Senior Leadership Team who have been most supportive and encouraging.

Thanks also to friends of Clock House who have been invaluable, working behind the scenes for the success of all the events which have occurred this year. A very special thanks to Julie Reilly who keeps me on the straight and narrow, we have had tears and laughter along the way.

Reflecting on the achievements in the last 12 months, it is once again with admiration and respect for our talented children that tonight I can share some of the highlights. Looking back to last September, I remember within a few days of the term starting, the first risk assessment was completed and the first trip was underway. This was the 'Love Bradford' World Guinness attempt to create the world's longest chain of people making heart-shaped hand gestures. The record was achieved and launched numerous events, which were then to follow.

We have had visits from authors Will Mabbitt and Hilary Robinson and the famous illustrator Martin Impey. All our children were able to benefit from their inspirational workshops and presentations. Our pupils were also invited to a presentation by English Historian Lucy Worsley.

We have celebrated Shakespeare Week, Maths Week with a visit from the Happy Puzzle Company, European Languages Week and our 'Spotlight on Happiness' campaign culminating in various activities and a disco. World Book Day is always one of my favourite events of the year when the children and staff have the opportunity to dress up. This year the theme was characters from traditional tales. Unfortunately, I was out of school that day but next year I will be seen in costume!

Our annual Harvest Appeal and charity events proved to be as successful as ever. Another highlight of the Year was the children's artwork being exhibited on the Governors Lawn for The Tour de Yorkshire. Dare I mention the General Election? All I can say is that our school election was more entertaining. Teams of children have represented the School in a general knowledge and maths quiz. We entered and were successful in the Oxford German Olympiad National competition and the Ilkley Literature Festival.

Our house music competition once again proved to be very popular with over half the School entering. We have also had many successes in graded music exams. Our educational visits and residential visits have been numerous with the children having visited Cambridge, North Wales, the Lake District, Yorkshire Dales, France and many local destinations.

In sport pupils have competed at county and national level in cross country, biathlon, table tennis and athletics and we have had further achievements in our inter school fixtures in rugby, netball, hockey, football, swimming, rounders and gymnastics. The list of achievements keeps growing and there are too many to name individually. Well done to all the children.

Along with all this, the children took part in the world orienteering event day in Lister Park and in the Brownlee minitriathlon. It was wonderful to see so many grandparents and relatives join us for our grandparents afternoon, we very much enjoyed hosting the event.

Even in this final week we have been busy with children attending the Bradford Literary Festival, the Year 6 children experienced their transition day into Senior School. We have Nick Toczek, an old Bradfordian, visiting the School to perform poetry and we must not forget the Year 6 leavers' party. I have only managed to scratch the surface of all the events which have taken place this year which only goes to show the many opportunities and fantastic facilities available to our children here at Bradford Grammar School.

It is a great honour that I can now introduce our guest for this evening Mr Jacob Rowan. Jacob is a professional rugby union player who currently plays for Gloucester. He is an Old Bradfordian who was Head Boy in 2007.

When Mr Wilde confirmed that Jacob would be our guest speaker for the evening I automatically had to ask for all the embarrassing stories I could share with you tonight. I was quickly told that nothing would be suitable. However, Mr Smith kindly supplied me with a photograph of Jacob in his days at Clock House.

Jacob is a former England U18 and U20 international who captained the England U20s during the Junior World Championship campaign in 2009 to 2010. In 2012 he was named as Captain for Yorkshire Carnegie, making him the youngest ever Leeds Captain. In 2014, he moved to the Aviva Premiership to join Gloucester Rugby where he is at present.

It is finally left to me to thank you as parents, grandparents and carers for your warm welcome to my new post, and all your support and kind words over this last year. Your opinions and suggestions are greatly valued. I have been very fortunate to inherit a successful school, which is going from strength to strength.

From September, I am very excited at the prospect of working with both Charity Orviss and Felicity Hughes, Deputy Head (Academic) and Deputy Head (Pastoral) to further develop our curriculum, assessment and reporting opportunities, to ensure the maintenance of our high standards.

Children's welfare has always been a priority for me. The new pastoral role will enhance the well-being of our children. As we know, a happy child is a successful child and both are intrinsically linked. The staff in Clock House are exceptional and the quality of education is determined by the teaching. I have a great team to lead.

As prize-giving draws to an end there are two members of staff I would like to mention. It is with great sadness we say goodbye to Deborah Yates. Debbie joined the school in 2011 as a Year 2 Form Teacher. Her calm personality and approach to all that she does enabled our youngest pupils to settle into their new school and make rapid progress, both academically and pastorally. Debbie has played a lead role with school sport. She has been a role model.

From starting her Bradford Grammar School career in Year 2, Debbie is finishing it as a Year 6 teacher, where she has prepared the children for Senior School and their future. This is one of the many memories our children have of Miss Yates; 'I remember in Year 2 the whole class was tired in a Maths lesson about shapes so to wake us up Miss Yates did a cartwheel right there in the classroom! I wonder if Miss Yates will still be cartwheeling in Cornwall ...'

We all wish Debbie much success and happiness with her future plans and her house move down to Cornwall.

Simon Tatham originally applied for supply teaching within the Junior School. He was soon in high demand and was seconded onto our teaching team. I would like to think that we are not saying a final farewell to Simon; I very much hope that he will be keen to return in September as a supply teacher.

I would like to wish our Year 6 pupils success and happiness for their future and always remember our school motto, 'Hoc Age'. Have a happy and relaxing summer holiday.

Kerry Howes
Junior School Headmistress

Staff Leavers

David Leake

By G Woods, Assistant Head (Curriculum)

David joined BGS in September 1991 as a teacher of Design and Technology, having had a previous career in engineering at the Royal Ordnance factory in Crossgates. He undertook teacher training at York University where he picked up his love of rowing.

Throughout his career at BGS, this engineering background, together with his MA in Product Design and a no-nonsense approach to teaching, has been of tremendous benefit to both his colleagues in the DT Department and his pupils. David happily spent many hours guiding pupils through their projects, with a particular emphasis on design concepts.

Prior to David Crowther's retirement as Second Master, David took on the post of Master in charge of Rowing, a role he has continued in until his retirement. Over his many years in this role David has done most of the administrative work involved in running the Rowing Club. David highlighted one project that was close to his heart, that of a yet to be fulfilled boathouse.

Thanks to his DT skills he spent many hours at weekends repairing boats, a role he intends to continue in his retirement. David's greatest achievement as Master in charge of Rowing has been the annual Vecht trip to the Netherlands at which the School has been competing for the last 20 years. He has enabled the School to forge links with the Dutch, which hopefully will last for many years to come.

David's other great love at school has been the world expeditions which he has organised impeccably over many years, even when not travelling himself. These expeditions have seen him travel with groups of students to Mongolia, Costa Rica/Nicaragua, Tamil Nadu in India, Bolivia and Borneo. This travel has not been without its risks, with David being bitten by an insect shortly before his return from India. This resulted in him collapsing on the aircraft and having his own personal stewardess for the rest of the flight whilst flat out in the rear galley in various states of consciousness. On arrival back in the UK, he was stretched off the aircraft and spent the next two weeks in a hospital near Manchester Airport.



Amy Corrigan

By S Haslam,
Head of Modern Foreign Languages

Amy joined BGS in September 2012.

As well as enthusing hundreds of pupils for the study of French and German, she has guided numerous Year 7s through their first year at Senior School. Amy has also made a significant contribution to co-curricular provision, both inside and outside Modern Languages.

This academic year alone, she has participated in the French Exchange and Lower School visit to Germany, organised a French study visit, organised the Language Leaders' Award and guided a team through the Schools' General Knowledge competition. Her creativity and enthusiasm will be missed and we wish her well at Leicester Grammar and in married life.

Debbie Yates

By H Smith, Junior School Teacher

Debbie joined the School in 2011 as a Year 2 form teacher.

A charismatic and energetic personality, she brought with her a huge stock of ideas from her previous teaching posts. Debbie has taught across the year groups in Clock House and her lessons have always been carefully planned and calmly delivered. Debbie quickly threw herself into school life, becoming fully involved in girls' games, especially netball.

In addition, she was a keen competitor in staff sports' tournaments. As a Year 2 teacher, Debbie successfully led residential visits to Borrowdale, in the Lake District, and she has supported many of our other educational and residential visits. Debbie has been fully involved in the School's co-curricular programme of activities and she successfully directed a whole school production of 'Bugsy Malone'. She has always been a kind and approachable teacher who has been a popular member of the staff, both with pupils and their parents.

We wish her well in her new venture as she leaves to spend more time in her new life in Cornwall.



Nancy Atkinson

By L Purcell, Library Manager

When Nancy retired at the end of the 2016-17 academic year, she was one term short of having worked as a Library Assistant in the Clarkson Library for 25 years.

So, as far as I am concerned, Nancy was a part of the fixtures and fittings.

When I arrived as an Assistant Librarian in September 2005, Nancy helped show me the ropes and introduced me to staff and students. In fact from that day, until the day she left, I think it would be fair to say that she kept me on my toes, chivvying me along if she thought I might have forgotten something (usually 'overdues'), coming up with new ideas to help improve working systems and engage students in the use of library resources. She was always very enthusiastic about the co-curricular activities we aim to provide in the Library and was completely in her element when we had the visiting author Marcus Alexander with us for the day.

Supporting BGS students in music and the dramatic arts was very important to Nancy. During her time at BGS, whenever possible, she attended lunchtime concerts and music recitals and as many evening concerts and school productions as she could. Also a keen sports fan, she would follow the achievements of BGS sporting stars while they were pupils at school, and

continues to do so once they left the School and entered the world sporting arena. I often receive texts from Nancy at home that might read 'BBC1 now ... Brownlee bothers!'

Nancy's amazing sense of humour will be greatly missed here in the Library. We have laughed. Sometimes way too much, if that is even possible. Nancy was a tremendous support to me personally when I took over the role of Library Manager. I don't know what I would have done without her help throughout the entire summer holiday immediately after I took over, it was hard work but it was worth it. Nancy should take a great deal of pride in the Library service that we have here today at BGS because she was one of the key components in helping to make it happen. We wish her all the very best for a long and happy retirement.

Staff Leavers
continued ...



Saeko Woodhead

By S Haslam,
Head of Modern Foreign Languages

Saeko first become aware of BGS when she started dating an Oxford Modern Languages graduate and Old Bradfordian, Phil, while working in Kobe. In due course, they moved back to Yorkshire to bring up their two children.

Saeko's own BGS career began in September 1991 and since then she has played a key role in Sixth Form enrichment and, more recently, in lower school activities. Saeko introduced the Japanese language and aspects of Japanese culture to the pupils to complement their studies of European languages at school.

Teaching an oriental language with three alphabets, one of which has thousands of characters, is a tall order within an enrichment programme, but Saeko has done a tremendous job. Her lessons contain a vibrant mix of activities. Over the past 26 years at the School, Saeko has inspired generations of pupils to take their Japanese further, perhaps as part of a university degree or through working and living in Japan. Saeko's very first student at BGS, Malcolm Gibson, studied Japanese at university, taught in Japan on the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme scheme and ended up in Kobe interpreting for Japanese royalty before working for FIFA in Japan and Korea, all as a result of having been taught by Saeko.

Saeko's commitment to BGS has extended well beyond the classroom. She has run a weekly Japanese Club for many years and numerous visitors to Open Day have left with their name spelled out in Japanese characters. Her pupils have had the opportunity to try Japanese dishes and her traditional Japanese tea ceremony, carried out annually as part of the department's European Week of Languages celebrations. These have been very popular with pupils wanting to gain further insights into Japanese culture.

All good things must come to an end, however, and Saeko has decided that the time has come to devote more of her life to her family. She will not be sitting at home in September when the alarm clock rings for other colleagues as she has plans to make an extended visit to Japan to visit family before flying to Adelaide, where her daughter lives. I would like to thank Saeko for her extensive contributions to the department over the years and wish her well as she starts a new chapter in her life.



Amy Lancelot

By L Hanson, Head of English

Amy joined the English Department in 2009 after spending the first two years of her teaching career in Wales at Llantarnam School in Cwmbran. Her move was very much a homecoming as she was born in Bradford and educated locally.

A passionate advocate for her subject and a truly excellent teacher, she inspired many pupils here at BGS to believe in themselves and be the best they can be. As well as being inspirational in the classroom, she was a fantastic pastoral leader both as a Form Tutor and latterly as Assistant Head of Enrichment.

Amy also played a massive role in the co-curricular life of the department and the School. She was the most enthusiastic fancy dress wearer I have ever known and excelled in many World Book Days and School Open Days; she also promoted reading via her regular Chatterbooks group and formed teams for the Annual Schools Book Quiz. A stalwart of the Debating Society, Amy played a huge role in ensuring regional and national success for BGS teams. On top of this, she still found time to attend outings with the Theatre Visiting Club and escorted dozens of pupils on numerous overseas trips with various departments.

Her remembrance assembly to commemorate the Bradford City Fire was brilliantly organised and made pupils aware of what happened on that awful day all those years ago. Amy has taken up the post of Education Officer at the West Yorkshire Playhouse and I am certain that if she gives this new career a fraction of the commitment and passion she has given to the English Department at this school then she will be immensely successful.

coordinator of Key Stage Three. In this role, she helped re-write the whole curriculum, assisted in the creation of a departmental system for tracking pupil progress and helped ensure that appropriate intervention was available for pupils who needed assistance in their learning.

A tireless hard worker, Eleanor supported me in driving up standards in many aspects of the English Department and when it came to her own teaching groups did everything she could to ensure progress for every pupil. As a talented violinist and hockey player, she became heavily involved running school teams and helped with both the Senior Orchestra and Senior Choir. She also helped to create the lower school newspaper, the 'BGS Bugle'.

Eleanor gave so much to BGS in a relatively short time. She leaves us to teach English at Merchant Taylors' School in Northwood and I look forward to hearing of her progress and her success as she moves forward in her career.

Eleanor Trafford

By L Hanson, Head of English

Eleanor came to BGS in April 2012 from the David Young Community Academy in Leeds where she was a para-teacher.



She then wasted no time becoming a fully qualified teacher following the assessment only route in association with Leeds Trinity University. Once qualified, Eleanor had a major impact on the department and the pupils in her care and became the



Neil Mudd

By L Hanson, Head of English

Neil had two spells teaching at BGS; firstly from September to December 2014 when he covered a maternity leave and then from September 2015 until this summer.

Neil, a former Head of English, had been seeking for some time to become a professional editor and writer and in-between his two contracts at BGS he took a PG Diploma in Media Laws, Public Affairs and Shorthand.

Outside of the classroom, he has been busy developing contacts and writing articles and he leaves us to become the editor of the online magazine, 'Culture Vulture'. Many English teachers aspire to be writers, but few really give it a go; Neil has the ambition and the talent to make it work and I wish him every success. Ever popular with his pupils, Neil was a caring and popular member of the English team and his wisdom was extremely helpful to me as the department changed and evolved; I wish him well.

Sara Thomas

By P Dunn, Head of Biology

Sara came to the BGS Biology Department only three years ago, in September 2014, but has made a real impression on life at BGS in a short time.

She immediately became instrumental in running the Natural History Club with a core of enthusiastic Sixth Form students who undertook the monumental task of 'de-sludging' the small pond in the Glade, and coralling Year 7 students to take part in the Big Garden Bird Watch. Unfortunately, researching the feasibility of keeping bees

ended up on the 'not yet' pile, but might have 'wings' in the future.

During year two, Sara took up the mantle of Assistant Head of Sixth Form, becoming a real tour de force in the pastoral team. She made a great impression in her role, appreciated by many students as a good listener and known for her sound, sensitive and supportive advice; you can take the teacher out of the mother, but never the mother out of the teacher.

Other than science, Sara's passion is being craftily creative. She was one of the driving forces in the development of the Textiles Club and the Sixth Form general studies course – a time for creativity, artistry, music and gossip! Sara's insight into the Sixth Form psyche is legendary.

And all the while, Sara was delivering interesting and challenging Biology lessons to the full BGS cohort. She freely admits that the meagre practical delivery that she was used to in her previous school was quickly knocked into shape as she guided her students to success at A Level and GCSE.

Sara is now moving to pastures new, looking forward to continuing to support, encourage and enthuse more young people as Assistant Head of Science at another local school.

Andy Smith

By D Alcock, Acting Head of Geography

Andy arrived for his interview in 1977 at the tender age of 22, and despite being struck down by appendicitis the next day he started his BGS career in September of that year.

Andy was soon joined by two other young Geography teachers, so the entire department were in their 20s. The group of four stayed together for some 30 years, which must be some kind of record, but this says much about the collegiality and friendship that quickly developed. It also explains why he turned down Head of Department positions to stay at BGS where he taught with great distinction for 42 years. BGS students recognised the quality of the department. In most of those early years there were over forty A Level candidates and in one year there were nearly sixty!

A former Head at BGS once described Andy as not just a teacher but also a 'schoolmaster', meaning that he was someone who committed everything to the School. In Andy's case, this was certainly true – he ran the U15 rugby team in winter for many years and then switched to cricket at Easter where he became Head of Cricket up to present. Thereafter, he spent just about every Saturday in the year in the service of BGS pupils – by some estimates, he has led about 750 first XI games over the past forty years without missing a single one.

Andy also took ski trips – often twice per year. For many years he would spend the first half of the Easter holiday on a week's residential with the geographers, return home and pick up another suitcase to go on a week's ski trip before returning home to finish the 'break' with cricket practice ahead of the start of the season.

Andy set up regular tours abroad, often to exotic destinations such as Sri Lanka, Canada and the West Indies. In order to keep the costs down, Andy would spend a good deal of time fundraising. As in all things, Andy's commitment to cricket was, and still is total, and he produced a book on the history of BGS cricket. The widow of one of those former cricketers in the book was so moved by Andy's efforts that she has since given substantial sums to the School's Assisted Places Awards Scheme.

'AG', as he is known by many, was a key member of the staff cricket team, and he was also the midfield dynamo of the staff football team, which played on Friday evenings – and two staff tours even took place in France. Andy's teaching colleagues recognised his contributions to the School and dedication to its staff and he served as Common Room President.

After some years of commitment to all things BGS, Andy decided he was not doing enough, so he set up a new A Level Geology course. Pupils often began the course thinking that this was their 'fourth' subject, but many eventually selected it for university study. In 2009, Andy became Head of Geography and has steered the department expertly through staffing and curriculum changes.

Andy is passionate about BGS and leaves after decades of service of the highest order and if current staff follow his lead then BGS will thrive.

Thank you Nick Smith helping to write this biography on behalf of his current colleagues.



Staff Leavers
continued ...



Louise Hepworth-Wood

By K Howes, Junior School Headmistress and J Barraclough, Head of Art

Louise was lured to the heady heights of Bradford Grammar School from Carlton Bolling School. From the time she joined BGS, she devoted her life to the School in every aspect and much of her social life revolved around her colleagues and school events.

Louise brought a sense of vibrancy and humour to the Art Department and to the Common Room; one of her wonderful traits was her ability to laugh at herself.

A driven and dedicated teacher, Louise always strived to instil confidence in her pupils and she taught with great enthusiasm and empathy; pupils had great respect for her. Devoted to her family and a BGS parent herself, she showed great understanding of what BGS pupils experience during their education.

Being a loyal supporter of the School, Louise made a significant contribution to the school's co-curricular programme of activities. Her flair for art and design was invaluable when it came to the School's annual Christmas events and the Spring Fair.

Having organised numerous educational visits during her career at BGS, she held particularly fond memories of the Sixth Form Art trip to St Ives where she, Miss Barraclough and the Sixth Form pupils donned their wet suits and went surfing, after which they warmed up with hot drinks to fend off hypothermia.

A valued colleague, Louise worked closely with all members of the Senior School Art Department and continued to do so when she moved to Clock House in 2016. Louise joined the Junior School as a Year 6 form teacher and the Junior School's dedicated Art teacher. A dynamic and energetic personality, she brought with her a huge range of ideas and a wealth of experience. Louise taught across the year groups in Clock House and her lessons were always planned to perfection and delivered with style. She quickly adapted to the Junior School way of life, and she became fully involved in many aspects of the curriculum. Alongside passionately teaching Art across the school, Louise led school trips and hockey fixtures for boys and girls both home and away.

Louise was a very popular member of the staff, both with our pupils and their parents. She demonstrated a keen sense of fairness and will be missed by all. We wish her well in her new venture as she leaves to spend more time pursuing her artistic ambitions.

Helen Boughton

By M Harling, Teacher of Religious Studies and i/c Netball

Helen Boughton was Head of Hockey at BGS for seven and half years, starting in 2008 coaching teams from U12 to U18s. Helen established Hockey at BGS, which meant building a comprehensive fixture list so that girls could enjoy competitive matches, which continues to this day.

Helen took on the role to increase the participation of girls playing Hockey at BGS, this was achieved and many of the girls have gone on to play representative Hockey.

Very successful senior tours to Holland and Junior tours to places like Blackpool and Newcastle were organised and lead by Helen. During Helen's time at BGS along with some very committed parents a 'Hockey Fun Day' was established annually in the school diary where parents and teachers played against pupils in two separate matches, finishing off with an 'End of Season' presentation evening. Helen was a very committed upper school Form Tutor seeing many pupils through their time in Year 10 and 11. Overall, Helen has made a big contribution to sport at BGS and pupils and staff will miss her but her great work is being continued on in the sport of Hockey.



Caroline Taylor

By E Tomlinson, Head of Year 7 and G Jones, Teacher of Girls' PE and Games

With devotion, dedication and motivation you can achieve a lot if you want to – Caroline Taylor did just that. Caroline joined BGS in 2001 as a newly qualified teacher (NQT) and soon made her mark as an enthusiastic and inspirational member of the Games Department.

With Netball as her main sport, she put Bradford Grammar School on the map in a sporting sense coaching our girls to reach National Finals and many to gain representative honours.

She excelled in both teaching and mentoring the girls and soon became Head of Girls Games. Caroline worked tirelessly with her teams, practising and competing every Saturday. In addition, she organised many successful tours to South Africa, St Lucia, Australia and New Zealand, giving her time freely for the benefit of her pupils.

As we know, teaching is a vocation and no one could have demonstrated this more than Caroline. She took a genuine interest in her pupils, and pupils and colleagues alike benefitted from her listening skills and empathy; this allowed her to get the best out of her pupils. Due to her character and as a result of hard work, Caroline enjoyed many varied roles during her time at BGS: Form Tutor, Head of Girls Games, Assistant Head of Sixth Form and Director of Sport.

She has touched the lives of many at BGS and will continue to do so wherever she works. Her devotion to her job, the school and her pupils has always been clear – she is an asset to the teaching profession and is missed by many here.

Thank you ...

... to the following staff for their
contributions to the School

Habibha Khatun
Teacher of English

Charlie Scott
Rugby Coach

Tas Malik
Teacher of Religious Studies

Barbara Massey
Teacher of Geography

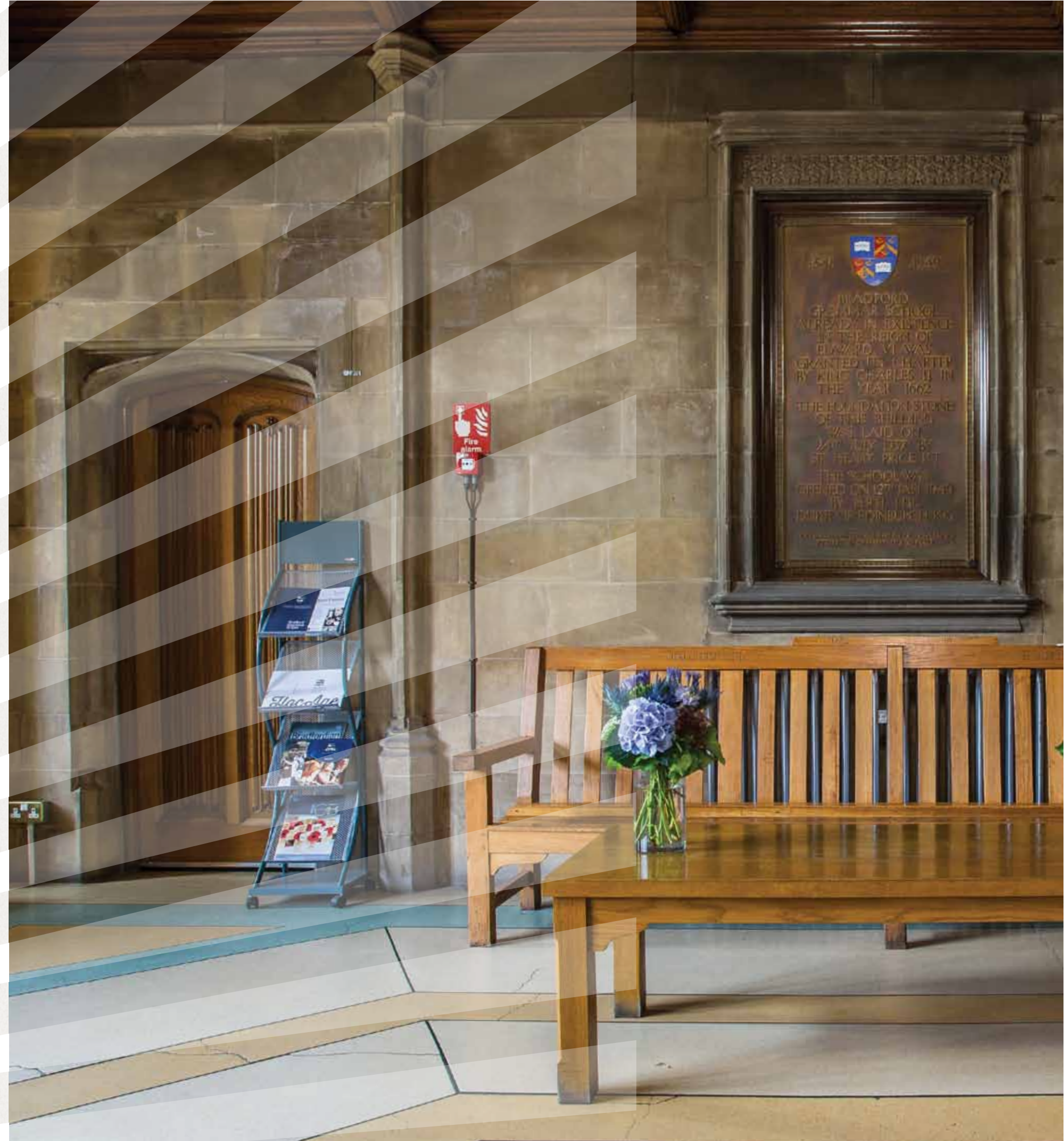
Sean Robinson
Teacher of Art

Georgina Wilkinson
Teacher of Girls' Games and PE

James Lowe
Teacher of Religious Studies

Sophie Hammond
Assistant Tennis Coach

Thomas Flynn
Teacher of Physics



University Degree Course Admissions 2017

A

Shiraz-Mohsin Ali
Rebecca Ashurst
Aarondeep S Athwal
Ali Atif
Isabel S Austin
Mohid Ayub

Sheffield, Architecture
Manchester, Management (Marketing)
Liverpool, Medicine
Leeds, Mechanical Engineering
Cambridge, Medicine
Bradford, Pharmacy

B

Connor L W Bailey
Philippa Bailey
Phoebe E C Barber
Ava M B Barker
Shihab-Ud-Deen B A Basit
Michael Beadle
Francesca K Berry
Kalvis Berzins
Toby Betts
Leighton Blackburn
Henry Boyd
Adam J A Bradbury
Thomas Bradley
Amelia Brayshaw
Roisin Brophy
Georgina Brown
John M H Burke

Hull, Mechanical Engineering and Manufacturing
Sheffield, Health and Human Sciences
Warwick, History
City University London, Management
Cambridge Human, Social and Political Sciences
Nottingham, Medicine
Manchester, Politics and Modern History
Oxford Aviation Academy, Training with EasyJet
York, Chemistry
Sheffield, Computer Science (with a year in industry)
Northumbria, Social Sciences (foundation year)
Reading, Economics
Leicester, Medicine
Birmingham, English and Classical Literature and Civilisation
Birmingham, Accounting and Finance
Sheffield, Biomaterials Science and Engineering
Durham, Geology

C

Maria Campear
Christian G B Cardwell
Matthew Z H B Carey
Harsimar Chohan
Hassan Chowdhury
Catriona Clegg
Joseph Colman
Celia Cox
Harry G B Crabtree
Elisha Cruthers
Thomas Currie

Durham, Biomedical Sciences
Leeds, History
Bristol, Mechanical Engineering
Leeds, Economics
Liverpool John Moores, Pharmacy
Liverpool, Politics with History
Northumbria, Business with Economics
Edinburgh, Philosophy
Nottingham, Law
Bristol, Psychology in Education
Durham, Geology

D

Oliver J Daffern
Nathaniel J Davey
Helen Davies
Jonathan De Silva
William R R Dickinson
Kristan Dobson

Max Duckett

F

Subhan M Farooq

G

Dhaim Ghafoor
Rohan Gohri
Talia Goode
Kunal Gupta

H

Clementine I Hall
Finn Hall

Adam H Haq
Mannan Hassan
Issykul M Hawksmoor-Barrett
Ruby Hendry

Joseph Hill

Fiona I Holdsworth
Charlotte Horsman
Lucy Howarth
Benjamin Hubbard
Alisha Hussain

J

Sajad Jabarivasal
Adam Jabbar
Adam R Jackson
Emerson I J James
Michael Jia
Tegan Johnson

K

Mehreen Khalil
Hamzah A Khan
Jamaal Khan
Paul Khullar

Melissa Knapton

Adrian L Kraft

Southampton, Electrical and Electronic Engineering
Cardiff, Dentistry
Newcastle upon Tyne, English Language and Literature
Nottingham, Economics
South Wales, Computer Animation
Northumbria, Built and Natural Environment (with foundation year)
Birmingham, Political Science and International Relations

De Montfort, Pharmaceutical and Cosmetic Science

Bradford, Pharmacy
Nottingham, Industrial Economics
Birmingham, Modern Languages
Northumbria, Law (foundation year)

Bristol, Theatre and English
Newcastle upon Tyne, Economics and Business Management
Imperial College London, Medicine
Manchester, French and Spanish
Kent, Cultural Studies and Media and Journalism
Royal Northern College of Music, BMus (Hons) in Vocal Studies
Brighton, Electronic and Computer Engineering (with integrated foundation year)
Warwick, Modern Languages
Loughborough, History and Politics
Liverpool, Nursing
Bristol, Mechanical Engineering
Leeds, Dental Surgery

University College London, Mathematics
Manchester, Engineering (with integrated foundation year)
Birmingham, Classics
Northumbria, Business (foundation year)
Sheffield, French and German
Kennedy's Law, Solicitor Apprenticeship

University College London, Engineering (Chemical)
Leicester, Computer Science
Cambridge, Chemical Engineering
Newcastle upon Tyne, Computer Science (with industrial placement)
Warwick, Mathematics, Operational Research, Statistics and Economics
Southampton, Electronic Engineering with Computer Systems

University Degree Course Admissions 2017
continued ...

L

Benjamin J Laljee
Richard Lansbury
Catherine Lathom-Sharp
Alan Li
Samuel Linfield

Bath, Mechanical Engineering
Sheffield, Engineering
Durham, History
Lancaster, Software Engineering
Bath, Physics with Astrophysics

M

Rukhnoor Malik
Thomas A McAllister
Samuel McDermott
Bilal Mehmood
Mohsen Mehmood

Imperial College London, Medicine
Northumbria, Business Management
Northumbria, Business Management
Liverpool, Geophysics (Physics)
LMU, Business Studies

N

Jibril Naeem-Akhtar
Rishi Naru
Adam Nicholls
Benjamin E Norton

Manchester, Engineering (with integrated foundation year)
Warwick, Mathematics and Economics
Bradford, Pharmacy
Birmingham, Computer Science (with an industrial year)

O

Rosie Ogden

Newcastle upon Tyne, Computer Science (Software Engineering)

Oluwaseun Ogunde
Emeka A Okorie
Madeleine Oliver
Maximilian Orviss
Charlie Ovens

MIT, studying in the USA
Salford, Accounting and Finance (with foundation year)
Nottingham, Medicine
Cambridge, Chemical Engineering
King's College London, Political Economy

P

Matthew Parry
Avi Patel
Priyanka Patel
Sonali Arunbhai Patel
Emma Peacock
Amreena Pervaiz
Edward Samuel Phillips
Anish Teja Pulavarti

Cambridge, Modern and Medieval Languages
Durham, Computer Science
Imperial College London, Chemistry
Warwick, History
Durham, Philosophy, Politics and Economics
Leeds, Medicine
Warwick, Economics
Imperial College London, Mechanical Engineering (with a year abroad)

R

Adam Raj
Eleanor F Rayner
Jack Reid
Thomas D Riley
Caspian Rix
Harry J P M Robertshaw
Thomas Robertshaw
Adare C Robins
Thomas O Robinson
Arun Roebuck

Liverpool John Moores, Law
Newcastle upon Tyne, Marketing and Management
Leeds, International Relations
Cambridge, Mathematics
Loughborough, Politics with Economics
Bristol, Electrical and Electronic Engineering with Innovation
Hull, Geology with Physical Geography
Birmingham, Drama and English
Edinburgh, Chemical Engineering
Coventry, Automotive and Transport Design

S

Shantanu Sampath
Jonathan Senior
Jawad Shad
Kathryn E Sharp
Conor Sheen

Warwick, Philosophy, Politics and Economics
University College London, History (with a year abroad)
Loughborough, Sport and Exercise Science
Keele, Pharmacy
Salford, Computer Science with Cyber Security (with professional experience)
Bangor, Marine Biology
Nottingham, French and History
Imperial College London, Molecular Bioengineering
Heriot-Watt Edinburgh, Economics
Liverpool, Civil Engineering
Birmingham, Political Science and International Relations (with a year abroad)
Exeter, English (with study abroad)
Nottingham, Philosophy, Politics and Economics

Zoe Sheldon
Michael Shepherd
Rickdeep Singh
James Smare
Tamara Smith
Abigail J Spencer

Brittany St Catherine
George Sugden

T

Hannah Tankard
Abigail Taylor
Edward C Truby

Birmingham, Money, Banking and Finance
Newcastle upon Tyne, Psychology
Salford, Music: Creative Music Technology

V

Luke Van Berckel
Scott Van Berckel
Sarah Varley
Rhythm Vats

Birmingham, English
Northumbria, Electrical and Electronic Engineering
Birmingham, English and Philosophy
Leeds, Economics and Management

W

Isobel Grace Wellings
Rhydian-Conner S Wentling
Jonathan Winnard

The University of Nottingham Natural Sciences
Bristol, Geography and Planning
Newcastle upon Tyne, History

Z

Taha Zamir

Bradford, Business and Management Studies

Examination Results 2017

General Certificate of Education (A Level) 2017

A

Ali H Biology, French, Religious Studies
Ashurst RJ Art^A, Geography, Psychology
Atif A Further Mathematics^A, Mathematics^A, Physics^A
Austin IS Biology^A, Chemistry^A, Mathematics^A, Physics^A
Ayub MS Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics

B

Bailey C Design & Technology^A, Geology, Mathematics
Bailey PG History, Politics^A, Religious Studies^A
Barber PEC English Literature^A, History^A, Politics^A
Basit SBA Latin^A, Politics^A, Religious Studies^A
Beadle MC Biology^A, Chemistry^A, Mathematics^A, Physics^A
Berry FK History, Mathematics, Politics^A
Berzins KE Design & Technology^A, Economics^A, Physics
Betts TP Biology^A, Chemistry^A, Mathematics^A
Blackburn LMO Computer Science^A, Mathematics^A, Physics,
Russian^A
Boyd HWG Business Studies, History, Politics
Bradbury AJA Economics, History, Psychology
Bradley T Biology^A, Chemistry^A, Mathematics^A
Brayshaw AR English Literature, Politics, Spanish
Brophy RA Economics^A, History, Mathematics
Brown GR Chemistry^A, Mathematics^A, Physics^A
Burke JMH Fine Art, Biology, Economics, Geology

C

Campean MA Biology^A, Chemistry^A, Mathematics^A
Cardwell CGB English Literature^A, History^A, Religious Studies^A
Chohan HS Economics^A, Mathematics^A, Physics^A
Chowdhury HR Biology, Chemistry, French^A
Clegg CJ History, Politics^A, Spanish
Colman JD Biology, Economics, Mathematics
Cox CG English Literature, Politics^A, Religious Studies

Crabtree HGB Business Studies, Design & Technology^A,
Politics^A
Cruthers EJC English Literature^A, Psychology^A, Spanish^A
Currie TJ Economics^A, Geology^A, Mathematics^A

D

Daffern OJ Chemistry^A, Mathematics^A, Physics^A
Davey NJ Biology^A, Chemistry^A, Mathematics^A
Dickinson WRR Fine Art^A, Computer Science, AS Design
and Technology
Dobson KKB Fine Art^A, Design & Technology, Mathematics
Duckett M French^A, History, Politics^A

F

Farooq MS Biology, Chemistry, Religious Studies
Fatima SM Biology^A, Chemistry^A, Religious Studies^A
Fitzpatrick W Chemistry, Economics, Mathematics

G

Ghafoor MD Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics
Gohri RK Economics, Mathematics, Politics^A
Goode TDM French^A, German, Politics^A
Gupta K Biology, Business Studies, Spanish

H

Hall CI English Literature^A, History^A, Theatre Studies^A
Hall FJ Biology^A, Geography^A, Mathematics^A
Haq AH Biology^A, Chemistry^A, Mathematics^A, Physics
Hassan MA Economics^A, French^A, Spanish^A
Hawksmoor-Barrett Business Studies^A, English Literature, History
IM
Hendry RF English Literature, History^A, Music
Hill JW Computer Science, Mathematics, Physics
Holdsworth FI French^A, German^A, Mathematics^A, Politics^A
Horsman CA Biology, History, Politics^A
Howarth LT Chemistry, Religious Studies, Dutch^A,
AS Mathematics^A
Howarth VM Biology^A, Chemistry^A, Mathematics^A
Hubbard BJ Further Mathematics^A, Mathematics^A, Physics^A
Hussain ZA Chemistry, Economics, Mathematics

J

Jabarivasal S Chemistry^A, Further Mathematics^A,
Additional Mathematics^A, Mathematics^A,
Physics^A
Jabbar A Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics
Jackson AR Greek^A, Latin^A, Religious Studies
James EIJ Business Studies, Geography, History
Jia MR English Language, French, German
Johal LAK Biology, Chemistry, Spanish
Johnson T English Literature, Politics^A, Religious Studies

K

Keating NM Biology^A, Chemistry, Physics
Khalil M Chemistry^A, Mathematics, Religious Studies^A
Khan HA Computer Science, Economics, Mathematics
Khan J Chemistry^A, Further Mathematics^A,
Mathematics^A, Physics^A
Khullar PJA Computer Science, Mathematics, Physics^A
Knapton MV Economics^A, AS Additional Further Mathematics^A,
Mathematics^A, Physics^A
Kraft AL Chemistry, Further Mathematics,
Mathematics^A, Physics

L

Laljee BJ Chemistry^A, Further Mathematics^A,
Mathematics^A, Physics^A
Lansbury RJ Biology^A, Mathematics^A, Physics^A
Li AGL Computer Science^A, German, Mathematics
Linfield SC Further Mathematics^A, Mathematics^A, Physics

M

McAllister TA Business Studies, Economics^A, Geography
McDermott ST Business Studies^A, History, Mathematics

N

Naeem-Akhtar J Chemistry^A, French, Mathematics
Narang RAK Biology^A, Chemistry, English Literature
Nicholls AJ Biology^A, Chemistry, Mathematics^A
Norton BE Computer Science^A, Mathematics^A, Physics^A

O

Ogden R Business Studies, Computer Science,
Mathematics^A
Ogunde OE English Literature, Further Mathematics^A,
Additional Mathematics, Mathematics^A,
Physics
Oliver MA Biology^A, Chemistry^A, Mathematics^A
Orviss MGH Chemistry^A, Further Mathematics^A,
Mathematics^A, Physics^A

P

Parry MJ German^A, Latin^A, Politics^A, Russian^A
Patel AD Computer Science^A, German^A, Mathematics^A
Patel P Biology^A, Chemistry^A, Latin^A, Mathematics^A
Patel SA Biology, English Literature^A, History^A
Patterson HJ Economics^A, English Literature, Politics
Peacock EJ Chemistry^A, Latin^A, Mathematics^A
Pervaiz A Biology^A, Chemistry^A, Mathematics^A
Phillips ES Economics^A, Further Mathematics^A,
Mathematics^A, Physics^A
Pulavarti AT Further Mathematics^A, Mathematics^A, Physics^A

R

Raj A Computer Science, English Language, Mathematics
Rayner EF Fine Art^A, Business Studies, Psychology
Rayner RJ French^A, Spanish^A, AS Music Technology
Rehman A Biology, Business Studies^A, Chemistry
Reid JS Economics, History, Politics^A
Riley TD Chemistry^A, Further Mathematics^A,
Additional Further Mathematics^A,
Mathematics^A, Physics^A
Rix CE History, Mathematics^A, Politics^A
Robertshaw TD Business Studies, Geography, Geology
Robins A English Language, English Literature^A,
Theatre Studies^A
Robinson T Chemistry, Mathematics^A, Physics
Roebuck A Design & Technology, Mathematics, Physics

S

Sampath S Economics^A, History^A, Mathematics^A,
Politics^A
Sandhar PS Biology^A, Chemistry, Mathematics^A
Senior JM Economics^A, History^A, Mathematics^A
Shad JA Biology^A, Chemistry^A, Geography
Sharp KE Biology, Chemistry, History
Sheen C Computer Science, Mathematics, Physics
Sheldon ZE Biology, Geography, Psychology
Shepherd MP French, History, Religious Studies
Sherwood HC Business Studies^A, Economics^A, Mathematics
Smare J Computer Science, Economics, History
Smith TL Chemistry, Mathematics^A, Physics
Spencer AJ History, Politics^A, Religious Studies
Sugden GH Economics^A, Mathematics^A, Politics^A

T

Tankard HP Economics^A, Mathematics^A, Politics^A
Taylor A Biology^A, Mathematics^A, Psychology^A
Truby EC German, Mathematics, Music Technology^A

V

Van Berckel BLW English Literature, History, Politics^A
Varley S English Literature, Politics^A, Religious Studies^A
Vats R Further Mathematics^A, Mathematics^A, Physics^A

W

Wellings IG Biology^A, Chemistry^A, Psychology
Wentling RC Geography, Geology, Politics
Winnard J Geography^A, History^A, Politics^A

Z

Zamir MT Business Studies, French, Psychology

We extend our congratulations
to all of our students on their
achievements this year!

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Junior School



Arts and Performance

Let's Rock

Rebecca Flaherty, Year 6

On Tuesday lunchtime, an innovative and exciting club known as Rock Band takes place.

Open to Years 5 and 6, this club is brilliant for young rockers. It offers them the opportunity to develop and express their talents through rock music.

As group leader, Mr Cook exclaimed: 'Rock Band is a brilliant club for young musicians. It teaches them to play rock music in a band and new friendships grow between everyone.'

Rock Band commences at 12.20pm in the Clock House Hall and all different musicians come. Rock Band play in the Christmas Concert and the Spring Concert playing for hundreds of people conquers stage fright and improves the musicians' understanding of other bands.

Avid singer, Keira Coldwell, commented: 'This club is good fun and I can now sing in a group instead of just being a solo singer.' Both good fun and educational, this club has all that young, experimental musicians need, to flourish in a band.

House Music

Amelia Atkinson and Oliver Tuggey, Year 6

On the 29 and 30 March 2017, Clock House pupils were given the opportunity to showcase their musical abilities to the Head Judge, Mr Jordan, and to earn their House some house points to contribute to the House Music trophy, awarded at the end of term.

There were many different categories for each instrument and sub-categories for pupils with different musical abilities. After their categories had finished, they were all given feedback and a ranking from Mr Jordan. The winners of each category were given the chance to perform their chosen piece at either Speech Day or the Spring Concert.

Pupils all showed great perseverance and determination in the competition and hopefully they took great advice from the judge to improve their instrumental skills. The winning house was 'Founders'. Joe Bishop (6A) won the Wilkinson Music Prize for best pianist of the year and Laura Kraft (6A) won the Musician of the Year Award.

Calling all budding drama enthusiasts!

Serena Kaur, Year 6

Drama Club, which takes place on Tuesday lunchtimes, is an enjoyable club led by Mrs Orviss, who is very passionate about drama. Having directed 'Honk' last year, she enjoys working with pupils and helping to develop their performance skills.

When questioned about why she started the club, Mrs Orviss explained: 'I believe that it will improve the younger generation's ability to communicate, to think quickly and their ability to improvise when in various situations using teamwork skills. I love watching the children perform; their ideas are hilarious and each and every performance is special!'

Jessica Poulson (6A), offered three words to describe the club: 'Unique, creative and fun!'

Samantha Bowie (5S) was asked why she comes back to the club every single week and she explained: 'It's a calm environment where I can really be myself!'

The Bard of Avon in Clock House

Shishir Shastry, Year 6

From Monday 20 March to Friday 25 March, Shakespeare Week occurred.

All pupils learnt about the famous playwright, William Shakespeare. Pupils learnt about Shakespeare's place of birth, Stratford upon Avon, life for Shakespeare in his time, the words and insults he invented, and they even got the opportunity to act out a Shakespeare play for themselves!

Year 5 student, William Palmer, had this to say about Shakespeare Week: 'My favourite part was the acting. The play that I acted out was 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'.



Talent Snapshot

Arts subjects may be under threat nationally but they are thriving at BGS.



Community, Societies and Activities

'Love Bradford'

Bradfordians young and old broke a world record, at Bradford's City Park on Thursday 15 September, with more than 2,300 people showing their love for Bradford, connecting people from across the district in a celebration of our friendly, diverse and extraordinary hometown.

The Lord Mayor of Bradford, Councillor Geoff Reid, called on people to join him in creating the world's longest chain of people making heart-shaped hand gestures. He encouraged citizens, schoolchildren, businesses and local organisations to take part in the stunt, which was aimed at fostering local pride while also raising money for the Lord Mayor's Appeal.

Among the bustling crowd, 27 Clock House pupils excitedly joined the chain in a bid to celebrate their beloved city.

Simon Hinchliffe, Headmaster, said: 'The sun was shining, everyone was smiling and it was wonderful to see folk turning out in such large numbers to have a bit of fun together. A good day for our great city.'

The event has been named #LoveBradford, after a phrase used on social media by people highlighting positive news and events from the city.



Harvest Appeal

Junior School pupils sold baked goods and other treats under the veranda outside Clock House for our Annual Harvest Appeal. All funds will go to Action Aid and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

Action Aid is a leading international charity working in over 45 countries and they use donations to work with the poorest women and girls in the world, changing their lives for good. Their local staff provide immediate, hands-on support to women and children living on the margins of survival.

WWF is the world's leading independent conservation organisation. They put their funds towards ensuring that people and nature can thrive together, for generations to come. WWF's schools and youth team works with teachers, youth leaders and parents to help them help children do just that. Through their work with young people, they're aiming to inspire a new generation of sustainability champions and help young people make positive choices for a brighter future for our planet.



Time to get messy!

Amelia Atkinson, Year 6

On Tuesday lunchtimes, Mrs Watson leads a great creative club, known as Modelling Club, in the Senior School Art room.

This is a club for children with vivid imaginations and creative ideas, who want their personalities to shine in their artwork.

Pupils have the opportunity to make models out of cardboard and other materials. When I visited, the pupils were busy making parts for their own creations such as a castle.

Mrs Watson explained: 'Pupils learn to be creative and independent.' Enthusiastic Modelling Club member, Ben, from Year 2, had this to say: 'It's great, as you can change what you want to make anytime!'

Louisa from Year 2 also added: 'There are no limitations; you can build anything at all!' and Jasmine from Year 2, also commented: 'I like how it appears, just like magic – except it isn't – it's your own work!'

So, if you are creative and imaginative, or see yourself as a budding engineer or architect, then this is the club for you! Go along; you will not be disappointed and the results will be amazing!



Surreal Science Club

William Palmer, Year 5

At Clock House, one of the most interesting and exciting clubs is Science Club, which takes place on a Tuesday lunchtime, for children in Years 5 and 6.

The activities are very varied so sometimes the club members meet outside and sometimes inside.

Children enjoy exploring science through teamwork and experiments with an extremely enthusiastic teacher, Mrs Buckley. She absolutely loves science and started the club to pass on her skills and passion to as many children as possible and to astonish them about the world they live in.

Learning happens through many different routes such as experiments and investigations, as well as through websites, books and videos. Eva Mercer commented:

'It is really fun to learn new things.' When asked if the club is helpful, another member said: 'Yes, it helps with all science at school and will be helpful for my future career.'

I want to be an astronomer so I need to learn as much as possible.'

Not only is Science Club useful and interesting, it is a fun way to interact and socialise with other children.



Conqueror of the boards

Mariam Butt, Year 6

On Monday lunchtimes, Chess Club takes place.

Chess Club is a brilliant opportunity for children to develop their reasoning skills.

Mrs Orviss, the leader of Chess Club, commented: 'I love chess; that's why I started this club. I love watching the children becoming involved and excited. They learn how to be patient and resilient while they enjoy themselves. Playing chess is something that pupils may not have the opportunity to do at home.'

Keen Chess Club member, Kallie Czajka, aged 10, stated: 'It's a great opportunity and an alternative thing to do. Now I look forward to Mondays, knowing that there is always a fun game of chess awaiting me. I think it has made me realise how important determination is.'

If you fancy yourself as the next chess player, come along and we will see what you are made of!

Community, Societies and Activities
continued ...

Spectacular Spanish Club

Eleanor Crookes, Year 4

¡Hola! ¡Bienvenidos al club de español!

Mrs Green, our very own Modern Foreign Languages teacher, leads Spanish Club. Every Wednesday lunchtime, Clock House pupils are invited to practise their languages skills. Members of Spanish Club have the opportunity to learn a new language, and about the country itself.

People join for different reasons; some because it sounds like fun, some because they have Spanish relatives, and some because they want to know more about Spain and its language. They learnt about dates and have been working on months, numbers and days of the weeks. They learn in a variety of ways including playing games and watching funny videos.

When asked what inspired her to set up Spanish Club Mrs Green commented: 'I thought that some students might want to know more about Spanish because we focus more on French in Clock House and it will help them in their future.'

Want to broaden your mind?

Emilia Burke, Year 5

Broad Minds is a club that encourages everyone to express and develop their own opinions and ideas.

Mrs Rawlinson leads the club and it takes place on Tuesdays at 12:40pm.

The club is highly enjoyable for everyone because debating is often very challenging and pupils get to share and listen to each other's ideas. Mrs Rawlinson listens well and is approachable at any time.

When asked what prompted Mrs Rawlinson to begin Broad Minds she commented: 'Because I have a keen interest in philosophy and I wanted children to talk about things. I found that children felt more confident when they talked about things that may be controversial or topical. When the following pupils were asked if they enjoy Broad Minds, they had this to say: Imaan Akhtar, aged 9: 'Yes, because it's fun and you debate about things. I like arguing!' Francesca Tadyon, aged 11: 'Yes, it's good. You are arguing but listening to people's points of views and responding constructively!'

If pupils want to join Senior Debating, this club provides the perfect platform to develop these skills.

Wacky Wind Band

Shishir Shastry, Year 5

Wind Band is an exciting club led by Mr Smales and Mr Brook.

The club takes place in the Clock House Hall on Monday lunchtimes at 12.30pm. Anyone from any year group can join. At the club, pupils play a piece of music with other people and they practise the tune every week. After weeks of rehearsing, they might play in the Christmas or Spring Concert.

Wind Band is recommended to people who can play a wind instrument because even if your skills need developing, you can still join.

Joining Wind Band offers pupils the opportunity to improve their skills on the instrument that they play.

It will also help pupils to learn more notes, as different tunes are played each week. Pupils learn to work together while playing a piece of music with others.

As a member of Wind Band myself, I know that you will improve a lot when you play more tunes with other band players and you will have lots of fun when playing. So, come on, what are you waiting for? Join Wind Band now!



Grandparents' Day

On Wednesday 28 June, one of Clock House's most treasured events in the school calendar took place: Grandparents' Day. Grandparents and other family members were treated to a range of performances, including music, poetry, drama and prose.

All four Year 6 classes performed in celebration of their wonderful grandparents. Highlights included a modern day rendition of 'Granny Can you Rap?'; a short play called 'Birthday Surprise'; a Grandma and Grandad sketch written by the pupils themselves and a choral poem titled, 'What are Grandparents made of?'

After the performance, Grandparents and pupils enjoyed afternoon tea in the Clock House dining hall where they shared some quality time with each other in celebration of this fantastic event. Director of Teaching and Learning, Charity Orviss said, 'It was wonderful to welcome so many Grandparents and friends into Clock House to celebrate this important day in our calendar.'

Excellent Election

Amelia Atkinson, Year 6 and Emilia Burke, Year 5

On Thursday 8 June 2017, Bradford Grammar Junior School held a mock election to help the pupils understand what was happening in the real world on that day and how it might change their future.

Each class in Year 6 was given a party to represent and promote. Each party gave a speech to explain their policies and to persuade other Clock House pupils to vote for them. The four parties were Vision, Tomorrow, Transform and Progress. Each class had to nominate a leader, a deputy, a secretary and a polling manager.

After the leaders had spoken on Wednesday, the pupils had a chance to ask the leaders some questions. The next day, pupils received a polling card and queued up patiently to cast their crucial votes.

The results were announced on Friday with the winning party being Progress, led by Lucy Robertshaw-Wareing and Anu Anand.

It was an educational day for all pupils, including Year 6, who got a taste of what it was like to run for Prime Minister.



Trips and Visits

Ancient Egyptian visit

Year 5 stepped back in time when they were visited by an Ancient Egyptian embalmer.

The embalmer was not short of assistance and our keen and eager pupils were soon put to work cleaning the 'corpse', removing and drying its organs and carefully stuffing and wrapping it in bandages. They even left the brain out for the cat! Led by the expert visitor, the pupils then sang and chanted verses to ensure that the mummy got a suitable send off.



A Trip to 1837

Mariam Butt, Year 6

On a cold day in January, Year 6 braved the plummeting temperatures and travelled to Saltaire, where they discovered amazing facts about the Victorians.

The pupils viewed the streets and they were also able to see some of the machinery that the Victorians used.

Additionally, Year 6 were lucky enough to observe the artwork of David Hockney, an Old Bradfordian. The teachers and the whole of Year 6 were grateful to the parents who accompanied them on a fantastic trip that everyone certainly won't forget in a hurry.

Trip to Murton Park

Eleanor Crookes, Year 4

On Friday 17 February, Year 4 went on an Anglo-Saxon History trip to Murton Park.

Pupils and adults travelled back in time to the period when the Anglo-Saxons lived and they were invited to dress up in authentic Anglo-Saxon tunics.

Pupils learned the ways of Anglo-Saxons, such as how they built their houses, how they stayed alive and how they fought off other warriors, such as the Romans. They learned how to make bread and oil lamps, as well as how to collect firewood. They even held spears and shields while charging up and down the Anglo-Saxon village.

Pupils spent some time as the villagers. They split up into families with a chosen mother and father and the adults were the slaves! Each family had a small house made of wattle and daub, and each house had its own fireplace.

In their houses, the families learned more about Anglo-Saxon life by chatting with one of the Anglo-Saxon guides. Afterwards, everybody went inside the Anglo-Saxon church, and then visited the banqueting hall to enjoy a banquet with the head of the Anglo-Saxon village.

At the end, everybody was invited to listen to a traditional Anglo-Saxon story by the fireplace in the meeting hall. All of Year 4, including the adults, enjoyed the trip and learnt a lot from the experience.

Science trip to Armley Mills

Rebecca Flaherty, Year 6

On 26 January, Year 2 went to Armley Mills for the day to learn more about different materials.

They loved seeing the steam engine that powered the mill and the water wheel at work. To the delight of Year 2 there was a black and white cinema, which was their favourite part of the whole trip. The cinema showed a funny 1920s film about what mill workers would have done in their free time, and Year 2 laughed loads! Pupil Fia Shivtiel quoted, 'I loved the trip!'

Spectacular Ski Trip

Eleanor Crookes, Year 4

On 8 April at approximately 8:30am, the Clock House ski trip set off to Montgenevre in the Hautes-Alps region of France, via Turin (Italy).

Pupils had five hours of skiing every day (three in the morning and two in the afternoon). They went on cable cars, moving carpets, chair lifts and button lifts. All the instructors were very good and helped a lot, as well as being friendly and kind. There were four groups doing different slopes in different scales of difficulty: green, blue, red and black, as well as snowparks and border crossings. This was a great opportunity for pupils who had never skied before to learn, and for pupils who had to improve their skills.



Students and teachers including Mr Smith, Miss Smith, Mr Wilde and Mrs Tatham joined in with evening activities, quizzes, town trails and even a movie night where they watched the iconic film 'Cool Runnings'.

Nine year old student, Olivia Morton, enjoyed the trip and had this to say: 'I think the ski trip is great because you learn new things every day, and I found you were never bored in the evening because there was a quiz or activity going on.'

At the end of the enjoyable but tiring week, everybody on the Ski Trip delivered a presentation to show how they had learned and improved.

Author's booktastic visit!

Emilia Burke and William Palmer, Year 5

On Wednesday 1 March 2017, pupils of Clock House got the privilege of meeting bestselling author Hilary Robinson and wonderful illustrator, Martin Impey through an exclusive book signing.

In the morning, the School gathered for a special factual assembly. The children also got a sneak preview of their exclusive new book, 'A Song For Will', in their individual class workshops.

Hilary told the children a thrilling story about a black bear from Canada, which was shipped on a boat during the war. A man bought the bear for \$20 and named it 'Winnipeg'. The man was not allowed to take his bear to war so he donated him to London Zoo as an exhibit.

The bear was so tame that people were allowed inside his cage to pet him, including a boy who befriended him. It transpires that Winnipeg and the boy were the inspiration for 'Winnie the Pooh' and the character Christopher Robin.

Lucky Year 5 pupil, Tia Merckx, was the first ever person in the world to obtain a signed copy of 'A Song for Will'. Tia was overjoyed to receive this limited edition copy of Hilary's new book.





Our Wicked Welsh Trip

Emilia Burke, Year 5

On Wednesday 29 March 2017, our lucky Year 5 pupils got the privilege of going on a residential visit to Capel Curig, North Wales. Both 5O and 5S boarded a coach and travelled the 2¾ hours to The Towers Outdoor Education Centre.

All of the pupils were excited upon arrival, but their spirits were slightly dampened by the dismal weather.

Lunch was eaten, then the pupils were designated their dormitories. All the waterproof gear was provided and put on. Now the adventures could begin! Groups participated in different activities, ranging from zip wiring to the Tarzan Swing; all pupils enjoyed these tiring tasks. After a tea of pasta and meatballs, then sticky toffee pudding, pupils were ready to set out on a night walk in the woods. Some children thought it was enjoyable, some did not, but all children were tired out after all the physical activities of that day.

The next day, breakfast was eaten, packed lunches were made and waterproofs were on. All were ready to go out in the rain. For some groups it was abseiling; for some it was zip wiring; for others it was the obstacle course. After lunch, it was time for canoeing! Canoeing was fun, and pupils had races and played games with canoes, water guns and beach balls.

After canoeing, every pupil jumped off the jetty into the freezing cold water. It was a fun experience, except two pupils lost their wellies in the water! Tea was veggie pizza and chocolate cake. After dinner, children got the chance to buy things with their pocket money for their families or themselves. Then instead of a campfire, pupils participated in a Towers code breaker quiz, which was spread across the four floors of The Towers.

On the final day, pupils (and teachers) took part in a woodland walk, where children were offered the chance to lead with a partner, demonstrating their map reading skills. A few children walked with Dr. Hinchliffe and had a fun experience talking and imagining they were fictional characters. Finally, after lunch, it was time to leave The Towers. Everyone had a great time on the three days away from home and school.



A trip to the Victorians

Rebecca Flaherty, Year 6

On Thursday 18 May, Year 2 went to Abbey House in Kirkstall to venture into the realms of the Victorians.

Excitement bubbled as Year 2 had to identify different 19th century objects and then they played entertaining, but old fashioned games. The whole of Year 2 were very interested in looking at how holidays have changed over the hundreds of years and were amazed to find out that going to places like an English beach in Victorian times would have been hugely different to the present day.

Bhani Kainth, 2S, exclaimed, 'I loved playing the Victorian games; I had never done anything like it before!'

Most of Year 2 agreed that it was an amazing day out and it sparked the imagination of our future historians.



Our trip to Ingleborough Hall, Yorkshire

Mariam Butt, Year 6

On Wednesday 17, to Friday 19 May, Year 3 pupils travelled to Ingleborough Hall, Clapham, on a residential trip.

Mrs Watts, a Year 3 teacher who has accompanied pupils to Ingleborough Hall many times, stated: 'It is a fantastic opportunity to take children out of the classroom to do fun things. Whilst they were there, they learned a degree of independence, learned to look after their belongings and participate in lots of teamwork activities.'

Everyone agreed that there was so much to do! Jacob Holmes, aged 8, commented that he loved the adventure playground and the falconry centre. Pupils also had the chance to sample a range of activities such as country dancing and caving.

One of the most exciting parts of the trip was that Year 3 were put in dormitories; they were put with people that they do not usually play with! As a result, many new friendships were formed. Year 3 will certainly remember the spectacular visit to Ingleborough Hall for a long time to come.

Language leaders share a flavour of France

Eleanor Crookes, Year 4

Throughout February, Senior School Language Leaders visited Clock House to teach Year 4 pupils all about French culture.

They led a variety of sessions which included information about Mardi Gras, otherwise known as Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day); The World Puppet Festival; Bastille Day and the 'Alouette, Gentille Alouette' song.

On 28 February, pupils in 4M were lucky enough to sample a range of crêpes, and they learned the accompanying French words, whilst demolishing the delicious delights.

Year 4 pupil, Manal Tai, aged 9, enjoyed the experience and learnt a lot from the Senior School pupils. She had this to say: 'It was really fun and the pancakes were really lovely. It was nice designing the pancakes using French words.'

Events

Charity workshop extravaganza

Serena Kaur, Year 6

On Friday 17 February, as part of their Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PHSE) curriculum, Year 6 hosted an educational morning informing younger pupils in Years 2 and 3 about various charities.

Pupils began by thinking about which charity they were going to promote and which member of their class was hopefully going to lead them to victory. Each Year 6 class then wrote a letter to their chosen charity asking for further information.

The morning, hosted in the Clock House Hall, was a huge success with the following charities being promoted: Children in Need, Cancer Research, Parkinson's UK and The British Heart Foundation. After some tough competition, 6H won the most votes of support from the younger pupils. At the end of the exciting experience, Mrs Watson, Year 6 PSHE teacher and organiser, explained: 'I was impressed because each Year 6 class had things under control and they planned well. At the end, Year 6 were exhausted but appreciative of what life is like for teachers every day of the academic week!'



Dance, Dance, Dance!

Rebecca Flaherty, Year 6

In anticipation of 'Spotlight on Happiness', on Thursday 16 February, a happiness themed disco took place in the Hockney Theatre, organised by Mrs Tatham and the fantastic School Council. Open to all year groups, the disco had a fabulous turn out.

Everyone dressed up in sparkly, funky outfits and danced to the music playing. There was disco lighting, lots of laughter and show stopping dance moves, so pupils were very glad when it was time for a drink and a snack.

Pupils were especially impressed by the DJ's skills blasting out the tunes, while Miss Deal led a mannequin challenge where pupils were asked to hold a pose for as long as possible. Soon the party ended and it was time to go home but it was certainly a night to remember!



Wonderful World Book Day

Shishir Shastry, Year 5

Thursday 2 March 2017 was World Book Day. World Book Day is celebrated annually by schools nationally.

Led by Mrs Orviss, Head of English, everyone in Clock House from Year 2 to Year 6 came to school dressed in a variety of different authentic costumes from various traditional fairy tales. Even the teachers dressed up!

Pupils and teachers demonstrated their traditional styles by dressing as characters such as Robin Hood, Pinocchio, Little Red Riding Hood, Cinderella, Snow White and many other unique characters from different books.

Year 5 pupil and reading enthusiast, Yusuf Raqib, aged 10, came as Robin Hood and had this to say about World Book Day: 'I enjoyed World Book Day. I had a very good and fun time. The teacher who wore the best costume was Miss Marsden as she was Robin Hood like me. I think that World Book Day is fantastic because it encourages people to read.'



Magical Maths

Amelia Atkinson, Year 6

From 30 January to 3 February, an extraordinary event happened at Clock House: Maths Week.

Led by Mrs Allen, this was an event enjoyed by all pupils, and whilst educational, it included enjoyable and exciting activities.

The activities ranged from adding and subtracting money at shop tills to finding out the costs of household bills. Jyoti Mangat, from Year 6 said: 'We liked how we learned about the economic side to life.' Ben Tomlinson (2S) commented: 'I like how they made the lessons more fun than usual!'

On the last Friday of this spectacular week, an exciting and different competition took place. For weeks, pupils had been collecting copper 1p and 2p coins. On the Friday morning and at break time, each class set out all the collected coppers in long lines, to see who had collected the most. Classes 3S and 5O were the runners up and 3W won the competition – but it was very close.

Abhijna Shenoy, 6H, said: 'I enjoyed how it was fun but still educational. I thought it was great that we gave the money we raised to charity. I also think that the pupils enjoyed the competitive side to it.'

Maths Week really highlighted just how much we all use maths in our everyday lives. Maths is not just sums; it is part of life!

Spring Fair

Emilia Burke, Year 5

On Saturday 6 May 2017, the annual Spring Fair was held on the Governors' Lawn.

Inside the Price Hall, there was a selection of wonderful stalls including a sweet stall, a bookstall and many, many more. Also, there was a BGS version of the 'Salt's Caff' run by parents. Next to the 'Salt's Caff' there was some beautiful artwork created by Year 5.

On the Governors' Lawn, there was a selection of fairground games and stalls, including a helter skelter, donkey rides and the BGS Parents' Hockey Challenge. The Teddy Tombola, (run by Year 7) was put out of business within two hours, mainly due to the valued custom of Year 5 girls, Tia Merckx (5O) and Melissa Ryan (5O). With Mr Merckx as the commentator, the day was full of fun and laughs.

Maya Basra (5O) had this to say about the Teddy Tombola: 'Everyone was having fun doing the tombola, even though they might not have got the teddy they wanted.'

Lady Morrison was there to officially open the event. She had this to say about it: 'It was my first Spring Fair and I was very impressed. I was also struck by how much hard work had gone into it and what supportive parents we have – the School is very lucky. I thought the Otley Brass Band was great and the samosas at lunchtime were delicious.'

Overall, the Spring Fair 2017 was a huge success!

Exciting Aftercare Equipment

Serena Kaur, Year 6

Aftercare is a facility that Clock House provides for children to stay after school until 6pm if they cannot be collected at the time that school finishes (3.20pm).

In aftercare, there are many entertaining things to do such as drawing, playing board games, doing competitive quizzes and many more fun activities.

Recently, the aftercare staff (Debbie, Gill and Angela), have ordered and received some lovely new equipment for aftercare pupils to use, including scooters and space hoppers. The children who used them thoroughly enjoyed playing with them. Jessica Tomlinson (3S) stated, 'I loved playing on a scooter. When I was riding it, the wind was brushing against my face and I liked it!'



Brilliant Brownlee Triathlon!

Shishir Shastry, William Palmer and Oliver Tuggey

On Monday 22 May, the Brownlee Foundation Mini Triathlon took place at BGS.

Pupils from other schools took part in their own races alongside the BGS pupils.

Students from all Junior School year groups had the chance to compete in the triathlon. Pupils swam around the pool, cycled around the cricket border and ran around the rugby pitches. Once through the finish line, they received a medal along with other goodies. The Brownlee brothers are regular visitors to the School as they used to be pupils here. Unfortunately, they were not able to attend the triathlon but they still sent a video message to explain what participants were expected to do. Charlie Wilde (5O) said 'It was very fun, but tiring at the same time. I would definitely do it again.'

Happy Puzzling

Oliver Tuggey, Year 6

On 26 January, as part of Maths and Enterprising Week, the 'Happy Puzzle Company', a company who specialise in educational puzzles and logical activities, visited Clock House to show pupils some challenging puzzles.

Pupils used their teamwork skills to complete the mathematical puzzles. The pupils participated in building squares out of different shapes; balancing penguins on moving icebergs; building roads out of big puzzle pieces and lots of other fun but difficult activities. Both staff and pupils were very grateful to The Happy Puzzle Company for coming in and testing our logic and reasoning skills.



Sport

Sports Day

Miss Marsden

Keeping up with our annual tradition, Tuesday 13 June saw Clock House pupils compete in their Houses in a super sports day extravaganza.

In the morning, pupils were straight down to the swimming pool for some water-based friendly competition. Featuring a range of events from a noodle race for beginners to team relays, pupils raced enthusiastically against one another to score the optimum number of points. With some exceptionally close races, and spurred on by fantastic spectator support, after a nail-biting period of waiting, the scores were finally announced. 'Royal' were delighted to be declared overall winners of the swimming gala, followed closely by 'Bradford'.

The rain clouds held off (despite their ominous threats) in order to lead 'Freemen' to victory, but not without a fight.

Well done to everybody who took part and contributed to a superb event.



Sink or Swim?

Oliver Tuggey, Year 6

Bradford Grammar Junior School offers a wide range of clubs. One of the most popular clubs is Swimming Club for Years 5 and 6 and Years 3 and 4.

Swimming Club is held on a Tuesday and Thursday lunch time in the Adrian Moorhouse swimming pool at BGS.

At Swimming Club, pupils get the opportunity to practise their techniques, the speed at which they can complete distances, their diving and develop stamina; they also do relays and fun activities to extend their swimming abilities. I caught up with the pupil-swimming captain (Ben Holt) and the teacher in charge (Mr Smith) and asked them several questions about the club.

Firstly, I spoke to the swimming captain and I asked him:

Q: Why did you join the club?

A: I have always liked swimming because, when I was young, I would go in swimming pools on holidays.

Q: Do you feel like you're improving in swimming?

A: Yes, because swimming club helps you to get more practice and it helps with your technique.

Q: Do you enjoy the swimming galas the School enters?

A: Yes, I always feel excited because of the adrenaline and the achievement of taking part, and also the three cheers at the end.

Then I spoke to Mr Smith and I asked him:

Q: Why did you start the club?

A: I started the club because it is an interest I've got and I thought other people would enjoy and benefit from it.

Q: Why should anyone interested in the club join?

A: Being a member of Swimming Club it is a great way to improve your fitness as well as swimming techniques. There is also the opportunity for new experiences such as competitions or even playing water polo. Of course there is the social side too!

If you are not a confident swimmer and you would just like to practise and get a better understanding of swimming without losing any of the fun, consider going along to swimming club.

U11 Rugby season kicks off

BGS hosted ten local rugby teams from across the region in their first U11 Invitational Festival of Rugby.

Kicking off the season, the School welcomed around 120 players from Rounhegians RFC (A and B), Yarnbury RUFC in Horsforth, Ilkley RUFC (A and B), Morley RUFC, Keighley RUFC, West Park Leeds RUFC and Bradford and Bingley Bees.

Sian Partridge, Parent and Committee Member at West Park Leeds, said: 'Today has been a great way to start off the season. The day has shown local rugby in a fantastic light and has been competitive, yet not overly-competitive, and a lot of fun. The day has run like clockwork and we have all really enjoyed it.'

'It was brilliant to see so many local grassroot teams come together to enjoy what was a fantastic event. The day was not about winning but about participation, teamwork and, above all, enjoyment – and there were plenty of smiling faces!'

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Arts and Performance



Arts and Performance

'All the world's a stage'

'Bated Breath' visited BGS to perform 'Shakespeare, his Wife and the Dog,' by Philip Whitchurch and Sally Edwards, to Years 10 to 13 pupils studying English or Theatre Studies.

Described as 'intelligent, witty and emotive' and 'an acting master-class', the play is a joyous celebration of language, despite the underlying themes of senility and death. Finding himself unfashionable, Shakespeare retires and makes his household's lives miserable.

Philip said: The Hockney Theatre at BGS is a fantastic creative space.

It's very large but has a sense of being intimate. It's extremely adaptable and acoustically it's more natural so you don't have to force the characters, which makes it easier to connect with the audience. The pupils also took part in a Q and A session. Year 12 student Naiha Sharry-Khan said: 'I thought it was really insightful. It really seems to link in with Hamlet for our studies in terms of the tragical aspects of Shakespeare.'

Philip continued: 'I think young people have a preconception of what Shakespeare is about and that it's in a sense 'posh'. This play isn't, it's knock about, has a lot of comedy and pathos and I think this translates to a younger audience.'

Lee Hanson, Head of English said: 'We are so lucky to have worked with the Ilkley Literature Festival on a number of events this year. An extension of that collaboration has been the arrival of Bated Breath's 'Shakespeare, His Wife and the Dog' to the Hockney Theatre. We are of course delighted that such a high profile, quality touring production has stopped off at BGS and made real impact on the pupils.'



UK's leading ceramic artist visits BGS

Kate Malone, one of the UK's leading studio potter and ceramic artists, visited BGS to speak to all pupils about Art, Design and the importance of creativity in school.

She also spent the day working with a group of Year 10 pupils on a beautiful ceramic tile installation, that will later become public art, on display within School.

Born in 1959 in London, Kate is known for her large sculptural vessels and rich, bright glazes. She is also a judge, along with Keith Brymer Jones, on BBC2's 'The Great Pottery Throw Down' presented by Sara Cox.

Kate said: 'I've loved spending time with the pupils, I wish we had another day to create more work. It's not about making a nation of artists, potters and carpenters, it's about showing them how to be confident with their bodies, and their hands, using a craft.'

You can be creative and think artistically whether you're a Doctor, a Nurse or Engineer. After talking to pupils about material knowledge, and the confidence it brings, I'm hoping that whoever they become they may want to dig a bit deeper than the basic elements of whatever they decide to do, and do it with confidence.'





Talent snapshot

Arts subjects may be under threat nationally but they are thriving at BGS.



'Live Like Pigs'

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

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.

Hanna 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 Bhardwaj, 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.



Diploma for our teenage soprano

Ruby Hendry has gained a distinction in a new diploma. Ruby, 18, took the first-ever Singing Diploma created by the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music.

Previously, the performing examinations ended with Grade 8 but, this year, the board introduced an advanced grade, with the first entries in March.

Ruby has been studying singing with Ilkley tenor James Griffett for eight years and, following her A Levels, will begin studying at Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester in September. She is well known locally for appearances with theatre groups such as the Upstagers, and for winning trophies at music festivals around Yorkshire. Last year she scooped a clutch of awards in the Wharfedale Festival of Performing Arts.



Arts and Performance
continued ...



National French film prize winner

Sophie Still won a national competition run by The Department of French at Oxford University.

There were almost 100 entries in total, with 69 in the Years 7 to 11 age category.

The entrants had to watch a film and rewrite the ending in no more than 1,500 words. The entrants had a choice of two films: 'Jean de Florette' or 'Mic Macs'. Sophie chose to study 'Jean de Florette' and her piece was so well received that the university asked permission to publish it on their website and blog.

The organisers of the competition, Dr Jenny Oliver and Dr Jonathan Patterson said: 'There was a very high standard of competition, which made judging a difficult task! But we thought that Sophie's entry was especially impressive as it both captured the mood and character of the film and dramatically reworked the ending.'

As well as receiving a certificate and getting her work published online, Sophie received £100. She deserves huge congratulations! Especially as she has done this whilst preparing for her GCSEs.

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.'



Tour de Yorkshire!

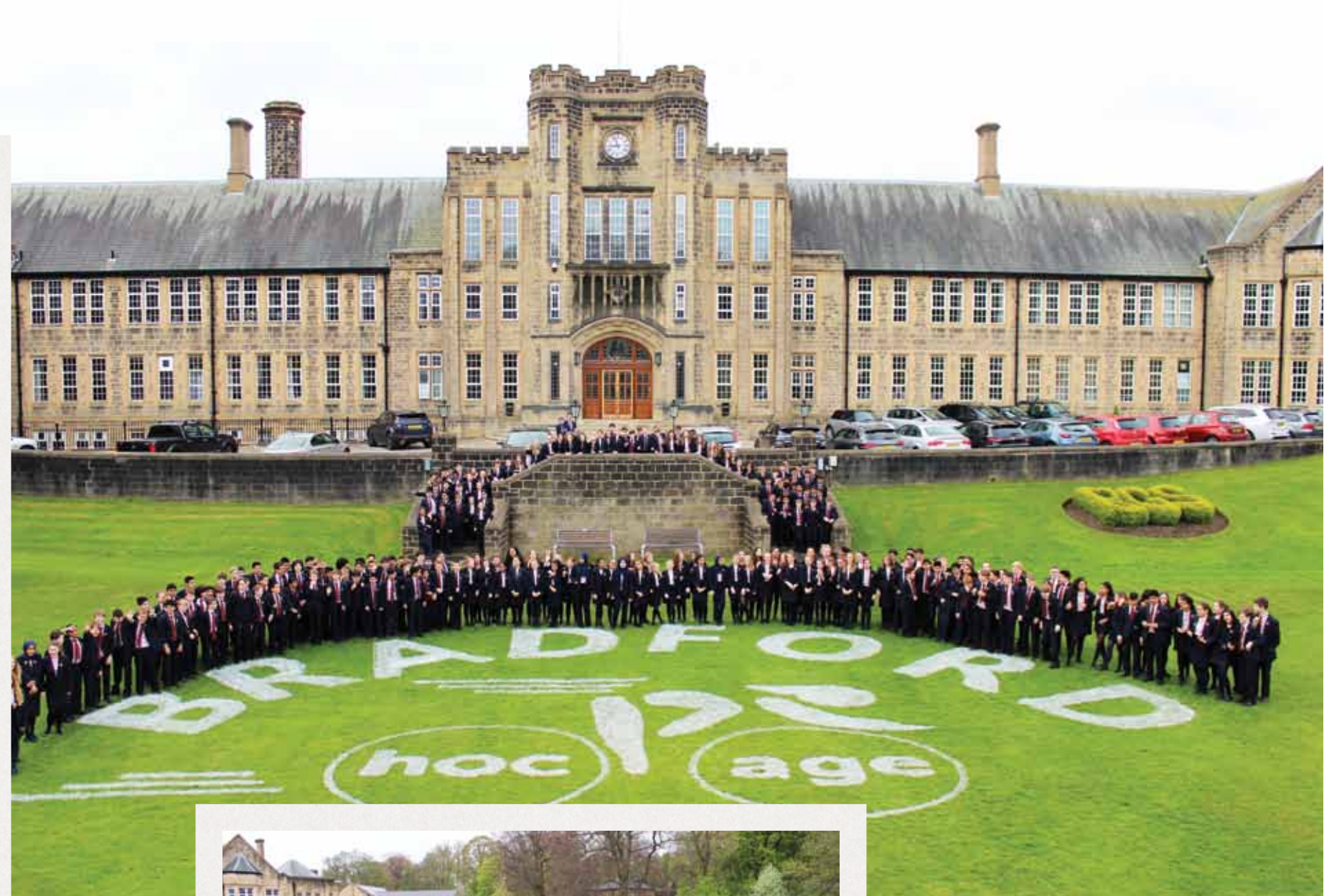
The race was on as the Tour de Yorkshire visited Bradford. Our fantastic Handmade Club got busy sewing some lovely recycled yellow and blue bunting to adorn the School railings.

Thanks to Mrs Tomlinson and the club. We also took the opportunity to display the original handmade knitted bicycle that was created to celebrate the 2014 Grand Depart in Yorkshire.

The Art Department with a Year 7 and Juniors competition created land art for the Governors' Lawn. They were big enough to catch the eye of the helicopter pilots as they buzzed above the route in Lister Park.

The BBC even brought their drone to film the art and interview the Junior competition winners, and BGS was featured on ITV4 (with an audience 60+ million) and 'Look North'.

Well done to the competition winners – Francesca, Tadayon, Rebecca and Annabel for the Juniors' design and Evie, Joseph, Ammar and Ishaq for the Seniors'. Thank you to Mrs Horsfield and Mrs Morley and all of the pupils for their fantastic designs – and of course to our amazing estates team for making the photos possible.



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Communities, Societies and Activities

4



Communities, Societies and Activities

Student becomes stem cell donor to help save lives

Following a talk given by a representative of the Anthony Nolan Trust who had visited Bradford Grammar School, Year 13 student Richard Lansbury, age 17, from Shipley, decided he wanted to go on to the donor register.

Every day, the charity matches incredible individuals willing to donate their blood stem cells or bone marrow to people with blood cancer and blood disorders who desperately need lifesaving transplants. It all began in 1974 when Shirley Nolan's three-year-old son Anthony was in urgent need of a bone marrow transplant, and so she set up the world's first register to match donors with people in desperate need.

Now, the charity helps three people every day to find that lifesaving match.

Richard's mother Alison Lansbury said: 'We were delighted that Richard had taken this mature approach and supported him in his decision to put himself on the register.'

In the spring, Richard was contacted by the Anthony Nolan Trust and they let him know that he was a match for a patient and could he supply more blood samples for further matching. They sent us a kit containing sample bottles and a form to be completed by the medical professional, who then took the blood samples.'

The family sent the kit back and it was confirmed that Richard was a match for a patient who would probably need a stem cell transplant in the near future. In early September, they contacted Richard to ask him to donate as the patient now required the transplant.



If he decided to take this up, he would commit to providing the stem cells, as once the patient was treated in order to prepare them to receive the transplant, if no cells were donated the patient would suffer and potentially die.

Richard said: 'I had no hesitation in agreeing to donate. We discussed this as a family and I knew I could decline if that's what I wanted, and that would be ok. But I was 100 percent sure. My family and the Anthony Nolan Trust supported me throughout the process and the Trust team were fantastic at keeping us all informed.'

Alison continues: 'It's difficult to describe just how much respect I have for Richard, he was unwavering in his commitment to donate and didn't think for a minute about the impact on himself. He embraced the process and it seemed he could always see the bigger picture.'

Through all of the injections and donation process Richard remained stoic and enthusiastic about the opportunity to really make a difference for someone, for whom he could be the only chance of a cure. To say we are all proud of him for such a selfless and wonderful act would be an understatement. He has proven himself to be someone who is generous, selfless and mature beyond his years.'



Pupils investigate accessibility

How hard is it to get to and
around retail areas?

Year 11 Geography pupils came up with some innovative ways of investigating issues of accessibility working in small groups in four local towns – Shipley, Bingley, Ilkley and Skipton.

Some groups came up with 'traffic light' systems to assess how welcoming shops were to customers with disabilities, for instance, did they have a door ramp, wide enough aisles for pushchairs, and minimal background noise? Other groups interviewed key players in disability issues such as Roy Aldread from Skipton and Craven Action for Disability, and hired wheelchairs to begin to empathise with the points of view of people with challenged mobility. Their findings will help them to complete a project worth 25 percent of their final GCSE grade.



Supporting Macmillan

On 30 September BGS staff joined the 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning'. Many staff demonstrated their baking prowess of which Mary Berry would have been proud.

The English Department had a friendly 'best brownie' competition, whilst some of the linguists demonstrated that their cultural knowledge extended beyond language with a German style Bundt cake. The event was a great success. BGS raised almost £150 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Bradford Regatta

The Bradford Amateur Rowing Club (BARC) is a British Rowing-affiliated club in Saltaire, West Yorkshire.

The Club's 2016 Autumn Regatta took place on a beautiful stretch of the River Aire on 10 September. It was a great success, blessed with some wonderful weather.

Bradford Grammar School entered several crews despite the fact that they had not been on training since the end of the summer term. The junior 18 coxed four of Tom Bradley, Nick Keating, Christian Burke (J16), John Burke and Matthew Parry (cox) defeated two other crews to win the IM2 coxed fours event for Seniors. The Junior 18 double scull of Euan Adam and Ben Wood defeated another Bradford Grammar crew of John Burke and Will Robson in a thrilling final.

BGS Rowing Coach, Simon Darnbrough said, 'It was a fantastic day and everyone did very well. Although these were the only two wins out of the five events entered, the performances of the other crews were very encouraging so early in the school year.'





Bradford Cathedral remembers BGS founders at civic service

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress joined pupils, staff and former pupils to remember the founders, benefactors and supporters of the School throughout its history.

Canon Alistair Helm and the Canon Precentor of Bradford Cathedral, Canon Paul Maybury, led the service, held at Bradford Cathedral. The School is one of the oldest institutions in Bradford, tracing its beginnings back to 1548.

Headmaster Simon Hinchliffe said: 'Founders' Day is an important day in the BGS calendar. It is important to us, as a school community, that we remember and celebrate our heritage in Bradford and it was wonderful to have BGS staff, pupils and former pupils alike share these memories. It also offers us another opportunity to celebrate our Yorkshire roots.

We take pride in paying thanks to key Old Bradfordians (OBs) throughout history who have contributed to the School's development in some way. I'm also grateful to our OBs who support current students at BGS in many important ways, for example, by contributing generously to Assisted Places; the positive contribution that they make to our school and the wider community cannot be understated – Another good day in our great city.'

Having occupied three sites in the city, including a building on Church Bank, the School moved to its current location on Keighley Road in 1949. The current building was in fact completed in 1939 but due to the outbreak of war, pupils (then an all-boys school) were evacuated to Settle while the school was used as a Primary Training Centre. Many pupils of the School were members of Bradford Pals.

Some well-known figures from Bradford's history have been involved in the development of the School, including: Peter Sunderland of Fairweather Green who, in 1658, sought a Charter of Independence from Parliament; John Sharp, Old Bradfordian and Archbishop of York, who gave generously to the School in 1691; Sir Titus Salt and Samuel Lister, among other figures, who endowed scholarships to the School; King Charles II who, in 1662, agreed to the petition of the people of Bradford and issued a charter protecting the independence and property of the Free Grammar School; and Sir Jacob Behrens, who owned a wool factory on Thornton Road and was one of the founders of Bradford Chamber of Commerce in 1851.



Faiths in the City

'Faiths in the City' on Tuesday 18 October was a day to remember for our Year 9 pupils, filled with collaboration and exploration.

There was a real sense of energy and excitement as pupils involved themselves in the activities.

The workshops this year included a Hindu dance workshop. Pupils were certainly put through their paces. In the Christian workshop led by 'Riding Lights', pupils explored the work of this theatre group and their Christian witness. The Islamic calligraphy workshop was led by Razwan who inspired the pupils to make traditional calligraphy designs. The Sikh workshop allowed pupils to learn about and play traditional Sikh musical instruments. And finally, the Buddhist workshop was enlightening and thought provoking with the opportunity for a lot of meditation!

Richard Skelton, Religious Studies teacher said: 'It was richly rewarding and stimulating for our pupils, celebrating and exploring the richness and diversity of faith in our community.'

A pupil commented: 'I enjoyed the variety of workshops the most. Every workshop was different to the previous one. Therefore, I learnt lots of new and different facts.'



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!

500th Duke of Edinburgh bronze award

Alicia Hawksworth was the 500th person to be awarded her bronze Duke of Edinburgh certificate at BGS since starting the scheme in 2002.

Nathaniel Davey and Mehreen Khalil have both completed their gold award with the Sixth Form.

Well done everyone.



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 to 13, and two in the senior section, age 14 to 17, with two prizes in each category. We are extremely proud that BGS pupils won all four prizes!

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 the pupils.

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.

Problem solving skills in Physics

This year has seen a wealth of opportunities for all students interested in Science.

Thirty students in Year 11 to 13 attended a research lecture in the Physics Department at the University of Leeds on topological matter, and its application to quantum computing. This was followed in November with 50 students attending a talk on Black Holes by a visiting Oxford Professor.

BGS hosted the inaugural BGS Open Science Lecture Series with two successful lectures at Christmas and Easter. We have had scientists coming in and talking across disciplines about Extremophiles living in strange environments and the weird world of slime where everything you thought you understood was turned on its head. With over 200 pupils, parents, siblings, staff and guests to the school attending, covering all age groups, more and more people are getting involved with science.

The School also 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.'



Leading the way with mental health and happiness

Over the last year, BGS has been instrumental in providing public talks from, amongst others, teenage mental health expert Dick Moore and Cyber Problem Solvers Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) Steve Atkinson and Izac Spencer from West Yorkshire Police.

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.'

Volunteers make a success of community library

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 2017 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 and Councillor Joanne Dodds. 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.'

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.

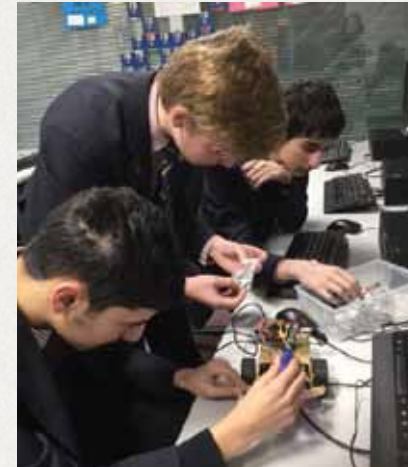
It gave 60 pupils a chance to study works of art in the gallery while meeting new people and making new friends, laying the foundations for further collaborations during the school year.

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.'



Cyber fun!

BGS hosted the first ever Yorkshire and Humberside Cyber Games, organised by Cyber Security Challenge UK, involving several different businesses and experts creating challenges based around cyber threats for pupils to solve.

Several teams from local schools entered the event to test their teamwork, problem solving and lateral thinking. The overall winner was a team from Bingley Grammar School.

Year 12 BGS pupils have also been doing an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) in Cybersecurity as part of their Enrichment Programme.

Year 11 pupils called Team ZMS (Zain Hussain, Marcus Steward and Saif Panni) entered the national PiWars competition at University of Cambridge.

They designed, built and programmed a robot to complete seven challenges devised by the competition organisers. The robot was controlled by a small Raspberry Pi computer which the pupils programmed using Python. They attempted all the events and scored enough points to rank 8th nationally.

Two teams of Year 7 and 8 pupils went to University of Bradford Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) centre to compete against local schools in a Lego Sumo competition. The pupils had designed, built and programmed robots built from Lego Mindstorms that had to detect the opponent's robot and to push it out of the sumo ring. Our Year 7 team managed to beat the opposition in a close 2-1 final to win the whole contest.

BGS breaks rowing world record

Students broke the World U19 Lightweight Concept 2 24 hour Rowing Club record with a final distance of 389,317 metres, beating the previous record set by Orlando Rowing Club, Florida.

Rowing in two-minute shifts, a team of ten senior BGS rowers carefully practised changeovers to avoid losing momentum. The boys rowed all through the day and all through the night, with eight rowers involved in each two-hour shift, allowing two of the team to snatch a little sleep before they were back on the ergometer.

The following morning, with over an hour to spare, the boys crashed through the existing world record and went on to row until 10am, breaking the record by an impressive 18,182 metres!

Jane Chapman, Assistant Head (Pastoral) said: 'I had the pleasure and privilege of seeing this magnificent effort by our rowers. It is a tremendous achievement for the ten boys involved, and was a truly impressive event. Hours of training and planning have gone into it and the teamwork and the atmosphere were wonderful!'

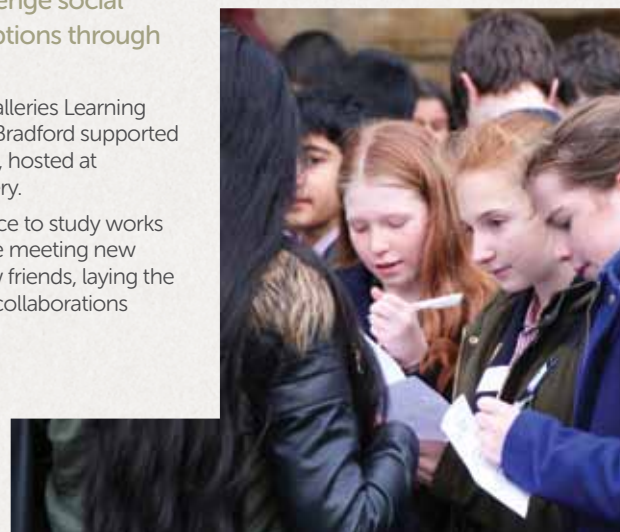
Simon Hinchliffe, Headmaster said: 'Well done to our Concept 2 24 hour record breaking rowers! Our rowers organised themselves and showed great team spirit in the breaking of this record; I am tremendously proud of them all.'



Fairtrade tuckshop

Our Fairtrade tuckshop is open every day and is run by a group of pupil volunteers.

Each year we choose one or more charities to donate our profits to. This term we've chosen Médecins sans Frontières, which provides medical aid to those in the most desperate situations around the world. Their current projects include Syria and The Jungle in Calais. We're delighted to have donated £1,000 to these deserving causes.





World Orienteering Day world record

People strolling in Lister Park on May 24 were greeted by the sight of over 240 children setting off in different directions armed only with a map – taking part in World Orienteering Day in an attempt to beat the world record for the number of people orienteering in one day across the globe.



Volunteering for Barnardo's

Year 13 students mentor a group of young carers every week who work with Barnardo's to help with their schoolwork and homework.

This not only improves the young carers grades, but also gives them confidence in their own ability and for a short time they can focus on themselves and not who they are caring for at home.

Kerry McKenna, Children's Service Manager at Barnardo's said 'On speaking to the young carers they were extremely positive about the whole experience – they had enjoyed going to the grammar school, building up the friendships with their mentors and benefitted with their studies. The mentors themselves talked about how they had found it rewarding and for some it had inspired them for their future career choices.'

The scheme has been nominated for the prestigious Queens Award for Voluntary Service – the highest award given to volunteers across the UK.



Our first dragon boat race!

If it wasn't for a cold north easterly wind, it would have been a perfect day for the first-ever UK schools' dragon boat racing event.

The race was held on the River Aire at Roberts Park, Saltaire, at the beginning of May as part of the City of Bradford Lord Mayor's Appeal.

BGS has never participated this sport in before, so a scratch crew of Year 7 and Year 8 pupils entered, with more enthusiasm than expectation, to race against other schools teams, all of which included pupils two years older than them.

BGS pupils listen carefully and learn fast, so our team's technique improved quickly. Each time we raced, we went faster and we were thrilled to post the second fastest time of the day and to finish second overall.

It was a great day out, and we will be back next year to see if we can finish one place higher!



Race for Life

The sun was shining when a group of staff, students and their parents formed Team BGS and ran the Race for Life at the beginning of May.

Runners, joggers and walkers donned their training shoes to cover the 5km route around the beautiful Lister Park to raise awareness of cancer affecting women.

Cheered on by the crowds of people, all the members of TEAM BGS finished with a smile on their face. Grace Dawson, in Year 8, finished in 19 minutes and five seconds, 27 seconds faster than last year when she also crossed the finishing line first. TEAM BGS also occupied second place as 11-year-old Rebecca Flaherty, from Clock House, finished in 19 minutes 47 seconds.

Definitely, the taking part counted, as the atmosphere was electric. The whole team made a sterling effort and they all did amazingly, raising lots of sponsorship for such a worthy cause as well.





Brownlee Foundation Mini Triathlon

We were excited to host the Brownlee Foundation's event for over 40 local Bradford schools.

With almost 1,000 junior pupils following in the Brownlees' Olympic success, this was the biggest mini-tri to date. Almost 200 BGS Juniors participated and were handed their finisher medals by Mr and Mrs Brownlee, Alistair and Jonny's parents.



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Trips



Trips

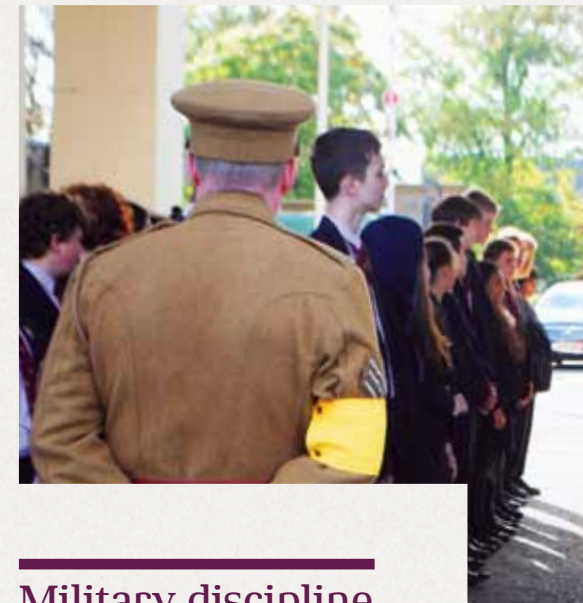
Holland Hockey tour

The senior hockey trip to Holland this October was undoubtedly a huge success.

Our five-day visit was packed with fun day trips, team building and plenty of intense hockey. Staying by the beautiful beach of Zandvoort, we began the tour with a GoPro training session led by a former national player, in which we were able to improve and develop our attacking skills. We were unfortunately beaten in our first two matches; 1-5 against HC Eemvallei and 1-2 to Zandvoortsche HC.

However, after thorough discussion and reflection from our video analysis, we approached our final game with determination, finishing with a well-earned 2-1 win against Almeerse HC. Alongside playing, we greatly enjoyed activities such as the 'Sherlocked' experience, visiting Amsterdam and Anne Frank's house, a trip to the waterpark, team games on the beach and watching matches of high level hockey.

It was wonderful to see players from younger years flourish and grow in confidence; by the end of the tour it was clear that we had developed a new mindset and an extremely valuable connection and relationship as a team, which will hopefully continue to grow, allowing us to be successful in matches to come.



Military discipline

Year 9 got a taste of military life and discipline with a History study day at Preston which focused on the life of the British soldier in the First World War.

They visited Fulwood Barracks and the Lancashire Museum in Preston for an hands-on day which included a fearsome drill from an authentic Regimental Sergeant-Major, trying on soldiers' kit, handling objects including an incredibly valuable VC, experiencing life in a recreated trench, a rifle drill and learning about medical care from a Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) nurse.

Hermione Baines, Head of History said: 'The experienced interpreters were really able to bring to life so many aspects of what it must have been like for ordinary men who suddenly found themselves swept up in the horrors of the First World War, supporting the work Year 9 are doing in their History lessons this half term.'

Spanish trip to Madrid

Year 10 pupils enjoyed a week of culture, sunshine and fun during their stay in Madrid in October half term.

They made the very most of the vibrant Spanish capital, visiting the royal palace, the Prado and Reina Sofia galleries, the Cathedral and the Plaza Mayor amongst other famous sites. The group enjoyed chocolate con churros in one of Madrid's oldest cafés and practised their Spanish in a series of activities around the city.

They also visited the monastery of El Escorial where Spanish kings and queens are buried, and travelled to Alcalá de Henares, birthplace of Cervantes and the site of one of Europe's oldest universities.

There was a visit to the Bernabéu stadium, home of Real Madrid, and time to visit the fashionable shops in the city. The weather was warm, the food was good, and everybody had a great time! We hope to return to Madrid in the near future with another group of Spanish pupils.



The ultimate selfie

On a beautiful Wednesday morning, 11 cadets from BGS Combined Cadet Force (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.

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 even 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 thought-provoking 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, everyone managed plenty of cake, currywurst and even some upmarket shopping.

Ski trip

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.

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'.



Iceland

Fifty Year 8 to 11 pupils enjoyed a jam-packed tour of the geographical highlights of Iceland over the Easter break including a relaxing bathe in the healing waters of the Blue Lagoon and being in awe of the torrents of water at Gulfoss.

All members of the group braved driving hail to visit the snout of an active glacier, and swimming proved a hit too – the experience of bathing in 38-degree waters whilst temperatures fell below zero outside was something that will never be forgotten. Overall, the students were inspired by geography in action!

Italy

In February half term, a group of 20 design students from Years 10 to 13 travelled travelled to the City of Bologna, in the north of Italy.

As well as a tour around the old, Roman city, with the local tour guide, Claudio, they enjoyed visits to the Ducati, Lamborghini and Ferrari museums, with a special visit around the Ducati production line itself, giving them an insight into the real world of engineering and manufacturing.

The group experienced the rich culture of the region through the delicious cuisine provided and the hotel located in the centre of the old city. Overall, the students had a hugely enjoyable time, taking many photos, whilst also learning about the automobile industry. It will be one to remember!



French exchange

Victoria and Lizzie, Year 9 pupils

'The French exchange was such a great experience. It was hard at times because of the language barrier, but we got through it as the family we stayed with were very kind and our French vocabulary improved drastically in such a short amount of time. During the time we saw some amazing parts of France. Our favorite part was the Puy de Dôme because the views were amazing.

'We found it very fascinating as we didn't realise how different the French lifestyle was. For example they have lots of food and they present it much differently to how we do in England.'

Daisy, Year 9 pupil

'Being on the French exchange was a great experience, not only vastly improving and widening my speaking ability with the language but better still my independence and ability to make decisions. I have seen many exchanges come into school and always wondered what happened; my participation has shown me that it is far from what I expected.

'I also think one of the most important things is to try and stay confident and not to worry about getting things wrong, as it helps to show your personality a bit more.'



Classics trip to Sicily

The end of the spring term saw Classics pupils from Years 9 to 13 travel to Sicily to explore the wealth of Greek and Roman sites on this lovely island.

Sicily, a new destination for most of us, was full of exciting surprises, from amazingly well-preserved temples to the delicious and many-flavoured arancini ('little oranges': delicious balls of fried rice in all kinds of flavours).

Our itinerary took in the town and Greek theatre at Taormina, the temples and sites at Segesta, Selinunte and Agrigento, the mosaics at the Roman villa at Pizzolungo, and finally the wealth of ancient and modern delights at Syracuse.

We learned a huge amount about the Carthaginians, the Greeks and the Romans, and how far their power and influence extended beyond the countries with which we now associate those names: a fabulous and eye-opening trip for us all.



Rhineland trip

The 'Rheinlandbesuch' gives all Year 7 and 8 pupils the opportunity to visit this beautiful part of Germany to complement their German studies.

In May 2017, 50 pupils and six staff were treated to a week of exceptionally glorious weather (if a bit hot, more than 35 degrees at times), allowing them to see the region in all its splendour.

Upon arrival, we embarked upon a scavenger hunt to get our bearings, finding words that begin with the same letter in both German and English that we had seen on our walk, to gain maximum points in the next day's competition.

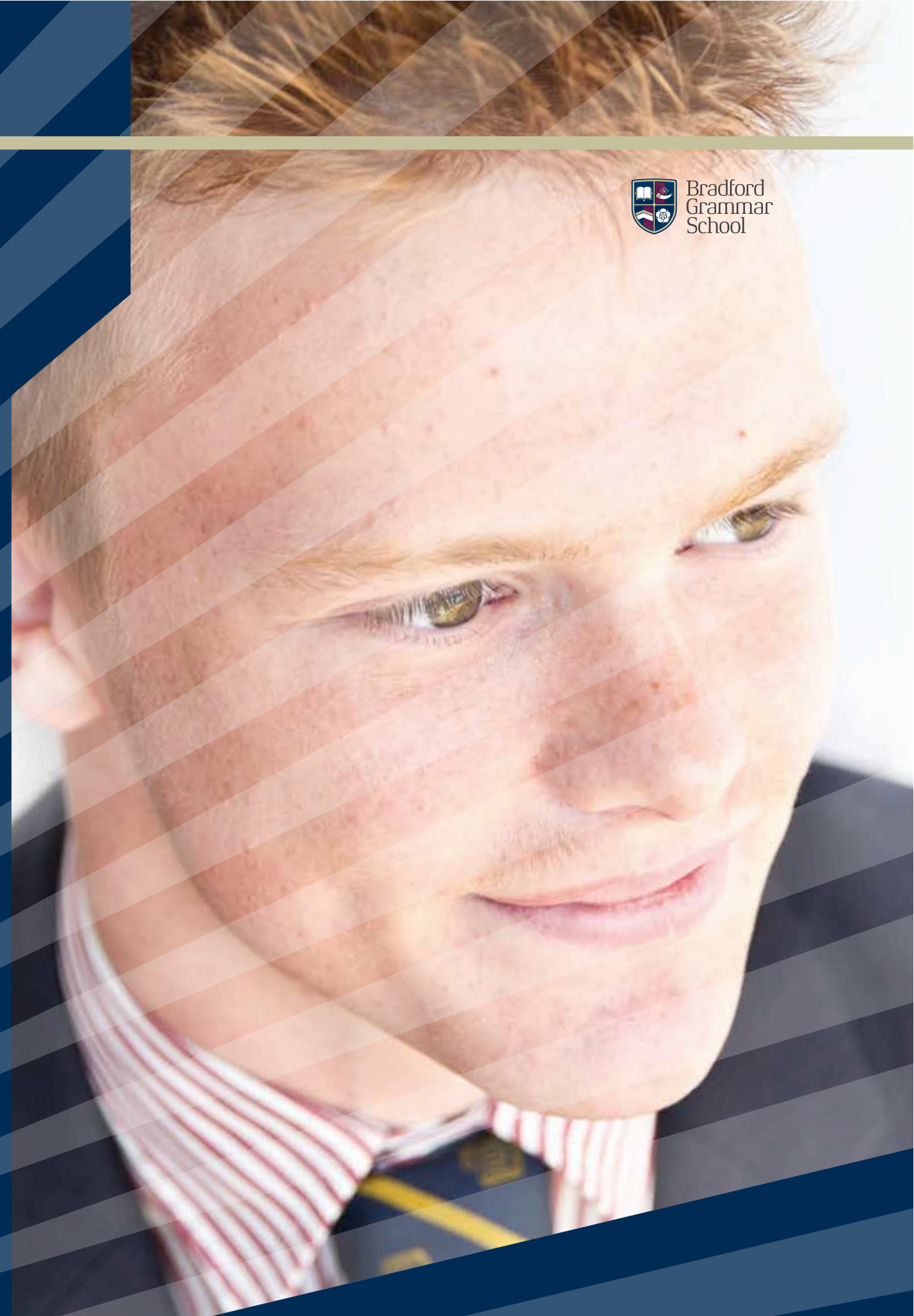
Fully rested, the next day comprised the first of the many cultural, linguistic and fun activities undertaken on the trip. From a traditional 'Rodelbahn' to hearing the legend of the maiden of the 'Lorelei', from a cruise down the Rhine river to a visit to the world's largest cold water geyser, in Andernach in the heart of Germany's volcanic national park. Each activity enhanced the pupils' understanding of both the German language and German culture.

On the return journey, we spent time in 'Phantasialand', a German theme park, where Mr McOwen, Mr Page and Mrs Haslam were delighted to discover that a new rollercoaster ride had opened (and that the queues were short, so they could have multiple rides).

Everyone had a great time and experienced something new and the Modern Languages Department look forward to the next visit in May 2019.

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Events and Visiting Speakers



Events and Visiting Speakers



A cautionary tale

Shaun Attwood, a former stock-market millionaire, who served time in the jail with the highest death rate in America, visited BGS to tell pupils his true story about prison and drugs.

He has been touring and speaking at three schools in the UK a week and says his story strikes a chord with many children. Shaun relayed the same experiences to young BGS pupils in order to open their eyes to the harrowing consequences of getting involved in drugs and crime.

Year 12 student Callum Haynes, age 17 from Bradford said: 'Shaun's story was really interesting and shocking ... I never knew this could happen.'

Raised in a small industrial town in the northwest, Shaun, 48, moved to Arizona in 1991, where he worked his way up to become a top producing stockbroker and a tech-stock millionaire during the dot.com bubble. But he also led a double life. Having been a raver in Manchester in the late 80's, Shaun took his love of dance music to the US. He threw raves and imported Ecstasy.

On 16 May 2002, a SWAT team smashed his door down. On remand for 26 months, Shaun started the first prison blog, 'Jon's Jail Journal', which turned the international media spotlight on the conditions – gang members and guards murdering inmates, dead rats in the food, cockroaches crawling in his ears at night. Shaun was sentenced to nine and a half years for running an Ecstasy ring. He served almost six years in jail.

Shaun said: 'All the pupils were very gripped and there was no end of questions

during the session. I hope, and I'm sure, the lessons are absorbed – which is what it's all about.'

'After seeing the horror of what drugs leads to in prison, I know I couldn't change my past so to me it's vitally important to go out and share my story. Particularly with young people where it's imperative they understand such consequences.'

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.

Kind of Blue: Pupils experience Ken Clarke

Pupils and staff enjoyed the reminiscences of Ken Clarke, one of the genuine 'Big Beasts' of the political scene, at the Ilkley Literature Festival 'Ken Clarke: Kind of Blue', as he chartered his remarkable progress from working-class scholarship boy in Nottinghamshire to high political office.

Ken Clarke, known as a Tory Wet who loves cricket, Nottingham Forest Football Club and jazz, isn't a straightforward Conservative politician, and his passionate commitment to Europe cost him the leadership on no less than three occasions.

Mike Simpson, Head of Politics said: 'We've been lucky to work with the Ilkley Literature Festival on a number of events this year.'

An extension of that collaboration was sponsoring this event. It was really interesting to hear how Ken's education was helped by a scholarship to Nottingham High School. Of course many of our OBs were also the beneficiaries of similar schemes which enabled BGS the right to be labelled 'Bradford's Grammar School'.

In his memoir Ken makes light of a difficult upbringing; he romps through life's many travails. He finds himself, in turn, on a school trip to the House of Commons, sitting two rows behind Nikita Khrushchev and Nikolai Bulganin. He networks with ease while at Cambridge, where he meets many of his political peers.

'Given the present debate surrounding the return of grammar schools, it is interesting to speculate if similar arrangements could be revived. The pace of change in politics was clear with his discussion of Thatcher years and how she was an ardent supporter of the Single Market. We're delighted that the pupils could reflect on these issues with such a high profile politician.'

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.



Spring Fair

The Parents' Association (BGS PA) has had another busy year supporting the School and funding a number of public events.

The Spring Fair provides donations to local charities, brings communities together and helps to provide spaces for conversation.

The theme for this year's Spring Fair was 'All Things Bradford', celebrating our great city and Yorkshire heritage! It was certainly a fun family day out featuring Otley Brass Band, giant games, music and a selection of stalls.

The BGS PA also continue to fund small projects such as the photography competition which was available to all pupils across the junior and senior schools; the purchase of several picnic benches which are in continual use by pupils; provision of a bowling machine that is used by cricketers and hockey players; fins for the swimmers and rugby pads and overjackets for the rugby players.





TV Historian delights pupils

Dr Lucy Worsley, best known for her BBC documentaries including 'Six Wives with Lucy Worsley', visited BGS to share her passion for history.

In a special event arranged with Ilkley Literature Festival, Dr Worsley – Chief Curator at Historic Royal Palaces, introduced her latest book, 'My Name is Victoria', to Year 6 pupils from Baildon Church of England Primary, Clock House School and Year 7s from Bradford Grammar Senior School.

With the aid of props including enormous trousers, a plastic pineapple and many crowns, Lucy explained Queen Victoria's complicated family tree and the coincidences that brought her to the throne.

Lucy also met with BGS A Level History students and answered their questions on topics as diverse as the Russian Revolution, Ann Boleyn and why history is a great subject to study at university.

Hermione Baines, Head of History said, 'Lucy Worsley has made her reputation as an extremely effective and enthusiastic communicator of the stories that make up history on-screen. It was a real privilege to see her in the flesh. She had 200 schoolchildren spellbound with her explanation of the complexities of the Georgian succession problem – no mean feat!'



Laura Beddows, Programme Co-ordinator for Ilkley Literature Festival said 'We work year round to deliver events like this to schools across the region and it's always brilliant to see authors sharing their passion for a subject with students.'



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.



Acclaimed Author visits BGS

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.'

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Sport

7



Sporting Achievements



Riding the crest of a wave

Two teenage brothers from Halifax are making waves in the world of windsurfing after taking it up just ten years ago.

Matthew, 18, and Josh Carey, 16, one a former and one a current pupil at BGS, started windsurfing after trying it just once on holiday in Weymouth.

Ten years on, the brothers are among the top in the country and their summer season has proven the best so far. Back in April Matthew came second at the Royal

Yachting Association (RYA) National Windsurfing Championships.

This qualified him for the Great Britain team for the selective EUROSAF Youth Sailing European Championship in Austria where he got fourth place.

Matthew has now been accepted on a part-time Olympic development programme, living in Weymouth, alongside a year in industry working as a Mechanical Design Engineer. Josh has had comparable success as an U17 national champion windsurfer. He came fourth in the U17 boys at the RS:X European and Youth European Championships in Helsinki in June. From Helsinki he went straight to Sopot in Poland for the Techno European Championships where he came 18th in the U17s. He has also been selected for the British team to compete at the RS:X Youth World Championship, the most important youth windsurfing regatta in Limassol, in November.

Josh said: 'I was really happy with these results. BGS has helped me to achieve a lot so far and I'm definitely enjoying the Sixth Form – the small class sizes mean you get the best out of yourself.'

Matthew said: 'In my A Levels I got 2 A*s and an A in Further Maths, Physics and Maths respectively. The teachers at BGS have always done their absolute best to help me achieve my ambitions in sport and academia and for that I could not be more grateful.'



Table Tennis

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

Hibah Mahmood and Sophie Yung qualified as regional winners of the U19 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 U19 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.

Bradford Grammar School 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 U13 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.

In the regional finals in Blackburn the Girls U13 and U16 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 U13. Emily Mellor and Joshua Poulsen were second in U16s and Evie Davies was second in U11s.



Cricket success

The 1st XI has completed the first half of the season with the first weather affected match at Queen Elizabeth Grammar School (QEGS).

Despite a fairly modest record (W2, D2, L5), a young team has been competitive in all its matches and there have been a number of impressive individual performances.

We hope that the experiences of the first half term will lead to a successful second half of the season. For the first time the School hosted the initial group round of the National T20 competition with BGS beating Ashville, but losing to a very strong St Peters side who qualified for the next stage of the tournament.

The individual highlight of the season was Will Smith's very impressive unbeaten century against a very strong MCC side becoming the first BGS batsman to score a century against the MCC (first fixture 1966).



Sporting Achievements
continued ...



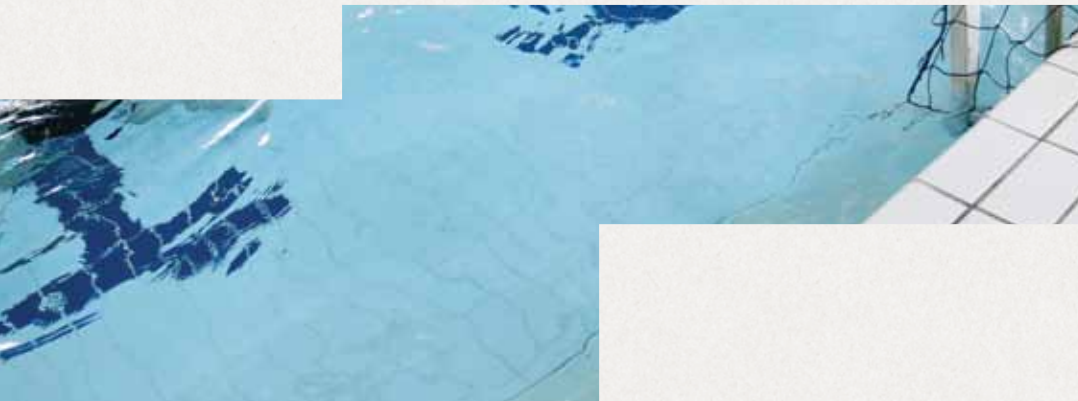
Discipline and dedication!

Two of BGS's pupils have had fantastic success in swimming.

Ciara Schlosshan, aged 15, from Leeds, won 200m butterfly gold at the British Swimming Championships 2017 in Sheffield, after being selected by British Swimming to attend a training camp in Indianapolis and a US Grand Prix competition.

She had previously won gold in the Junior Women's 400m individual medley (15 years and under) and the bronze medal in the Junior Women's 200 metres Individual Medley at the National ASANER 2015 Short Course Championships, where she also broke two Yorkshire records.

Rebecca Clynes, aged 14, from Leeds, recently qualified for the Junior Women's final ages 14 to 17 in the 200m breaststroke at the British Swimming Championships 2017. Rebecca previously competed in the Welsh Nationals winning an abundance of medals – including five golds! Well done girls.



BGS netball soaring to success

Since September a number of our netballers have been successful gaining representative honours.

Our pupils have trialled for U13 and U15 District Netball Squads and for County and Regional Academies. Overall 35 girls across five age groups are now training and playing representative netball.

The U16 netball squad have progressed comfortably through the first round of the National Schools competition. They beat all teams in the area, bar one, and now look forward to the regional round in January. Well done girls!



Yorkshire Biathlon Championships

Top effort by Year 6 pupils Nate Holdsworth, Florence Taylor, Dan Grimmitt and Eleanor Dawson representing BGS in the Yorkshire Biathlon Championships on Sunday 16 October.

The four all gave 100 percent, running 800 metres in wet conditions at York University's Athletics Stadium followed by a 50-metre swim at the York Sports Village. Dan was second in the U11 boys, Eleanor second in the U11 girls with Florence and Nate achieving PBs and great performances.



Sport

Athletics

By G K Jones, Teacher i/c Athletics

Girls Athletics at BGS continued its development in the 2016 to 2017 season. As well as competing in a handful of friendly competitions against the Grammar School at Leeds (GSAL) and Grove, the intermediate and junior teams competed in the Northern HMC (the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference) competitions, the English Schools Cup and the Bradford Schools League.

In a season highly disrupted by adverse weather, which affected both training and fixtures, BGS gained a number of successes. The Intermediate Girls accumulated a massive point's score in the Bradford Schools League to claim the title ahead of Woodhouse Grove and Skipton Girls' School, a competition that saw our Juniors narrowly beaten into 2nd place by Woodhouse Grove.

At the Northern HMC competition, the Junior Girls were most successful gaining third place one point behind Sedbergh. Both teams progressed through to Regional Finals in the English Schools Cup with the Junior Girls achieving a top eight place to put them through to the Regional A competition. Despite finishing 8th, the

team (many of them Year 7 girls at the bottom of the age group) gained valuable competition experience.

The notable individual this season has again been Ella Gill (100m and Relay) who having competed for the district at the West Yorkshire Championships, went on to qualify to represent West Yorkshire at the English Schools Finals, an experience which I am pleased to say has encouraged Ella to focus more closely on her athletics for the indoor season 2017 to 2018.

Other note-worthy performances have come from Grace Dawson 1500m who has continually beaten her personal best throughout the season and was selected to represent the district at the West Yorkshire Championships. Kate Mighell (High Jump) gained selection. Eva Lockett continued to impress in hurdles, 800m and javelin – claiming the district title in the hurdles.

Individual performances from Alex Flaherty (1500m) and Obi Ene (200m) also saw them gain representative honours at the West Yorkshire Championships.

Cricket

1st XI

By A G Smith, Teacher i/c 1st XI Cricket

Played **18**
 Won **3**
 Drawn **2**
 Lost **13**
 Abandoned **2**

Date	Opposition	Details	Result
April 22	Manchester GS MGS 203	Away Farooq 2-24, Zamir 2-26, Andrews 2-43 Williams 35, Smith 31, Luxton 30, Andrews 29	Lost by 23 runs
	BGS 1 180		
April 26	Ermysteds GS EGS 126-6 BGS 129-5	Home Brennan 2-27 Smith 49, Williams 42	Won by 5 wickets
April 29	Ashville College BGS 176-6	Home T20 Williams 70, Shad 30, Croudson 22, Andrews 20 Brennan 2-25	Lost by 6 wickets
	AC 178-4		
May 3	MCC MCC 233-3d BGS 199-6	Home Smith 110 no, Croudson 43	Match Drawn
May 6	Woodhouse Grove WG 170-9	Home Zamir 3-40, Brennan 2-11, Farooq 2-28 Smith 54, Andrews 21	Lost by 33 runs
	BGS 137		
May 10	Ashville College AC 145-4 BGS 150-1	Home T20 Brennan 2-21 Croudson 91no, Andrews 26	Won by 9 wickets
May 10	St Peters School, York StP 179-5 BGS 72	Home T20	Lost by 107 runs

Date	Opposition	Details	Result
May 13	GSAL BGS 190-9 GSAL 191-1	Home Croudson 51, Shad 28, Williams 28, Ghafoor 21	Lost by 9 wickets
May 10	QEGS Wakefield BGS 99-2	Away Luxton 42, Smith 20	Match Drawn (rain)
June 18	Ampleforth College BGS 190-3 AC 191-3	Home Smith 95no, Williams 55, Luxton 22	Lost by 6 wickets
June 24	Hymers College HC 216-5 BGS 124	Away Celik 3-48 Merchant 41no, Williams 29	Lost by 92 runs
June 30	RGS Newcastle RGS 119-7 BGS 98-9	Away T20 Zamir 3-14 Williams 48	Lost by 21 runs
June 30	St Peters School, York BGS 87 StP 88-3	Away T20 75 76-3	Lost by 7 wickets
July 1	St Peter's School, York BGS 176-9 St P 177-1	Away Luxton 81, Ghafoor 24	Lost by 9 wickets
July 4	Wisbech GS WGS 173-6 BGS 160-6	Away T20 Horrocks 2-26, Croudson 2-33, Zamir 2-40 Williams 57, Smith 28, Merchant 21	Lost by 13 runs
July 5	Cambridgeshire Development XI BGS 119 CDXI 125-2	Away Luxton 64no Celik 2-19	Lost by 8 wickets
July 6	Nottingham HS NHS 217-6 BGS 168-9	Home Brennan 3-49 Merchant 56, Shad 21	Lost by 49 runs
July 7	Old Bradfordians OB 203-9 BGS 204-6	Home D Groom 56 ret, Druce 42, Cockcroft 31; Zamir 4-20, Hamdani 2-30 Ghafoor 48no, Williams 38, Croudson 37, Andrews 24	Won by 4 wickets

Individual awards

Full colours re-awards

R G Williams

Full colours new awards

O J Croudson, W F Smith,

Club colours

C R Andrews, D J Brennan, M D Ghafoor,

B M Merchant, J A Shad, T Zamir

J B Gray Batting Trophy

R G Williams

T H C Balaam Bowling Trophy

T Zamir

A A D Gillgrass Field Trophy

R G Williams

The Davies Cup (Player of the Season)

R G Williams



1st XI Averages

M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Aver	Balls faced	SR	50	100	Player	Ovrs	Mdlns	Runs	Wkts	Aver	Runs/over	Balls/wkt	BB	Ct	St
18	18	1	228	29	13.41	423	53.90			C R Andrews	71.5	4	390	6	65.00	5.45	71.50	2-43	3	
15	10	2	25	7	3.13	47	53.19			D J Brennan	94	14	395	14	28.21	4.20	40.29	3-49	8	
2	2	0	0	0	0.00	6	0.00			T H Celik	16	1	110	5	22.00	6.88	19.20	3-48		
14	13	3	308	91*	30.80	300	102.67	2		O J Croudson	39	5	255	6	42.50	6.54	39.00	2-33	3	
15	9	2	23	7	3.29	60	33.33			M S Farooq	93.4	14	390	8	48.75	4.18	70.05	2-24		
14	11	2	116	48*	12.89	96	120.83			M D Ghafoor	27	2	190	1	190.00	7.04	162.00	1-37	4	
1	1	1	5	5*		5	71.43			A M Hamdani	6	0	30	2	15.00	5.00	18.00	2-30		
1										J A Harrop	3	0	31	0		10.33				
3	2	0	17	13	8.50	47	36.17			W P Hopper	0.2	0	12	0		36.00				
8	3	2	2	1*	2.00	5	40.00			A Horrocks	31	2	165	5	33.00	5.32	37.20	2-26	3	
18	17	2	338	81	22.53	552	61.23	2		W A Luxton	32	0	249	4	62.25	7.78	48.00	1-32	4	
14	12	2	172	56	17.20	232	74.14	1		B M Merchant									6	
1										S Murphy										
2	1	0	1	1	1.00	5	20.00			R Patel	16	1	78	1	78.00	4.88	96.00	1-42		
5	4	0	6	6	1.50	19	31.58			A Pulavarti									1	
1	1	0	0	0	0.00	1	0.00			A T Pulavarti	5	0	30	0		6.00		0-30		
17	14	1	121	30	9.31	283	42.76			J A Shad									5	
1										H O Smith										
15	15	2	438	110*	33.69	751	58.32	2	1	W F Smith	5	0	56	0		11.20		0-14	1	
18	18	2	460	70	28.75	604	76.16	3		R G Williams	5	0	32	1	32.00	6.40	30.00	1-32	8	
16	10	6	36	12*	9.00	61	59.02			T Zamir	88.1	13	492	19	25.89	5.58	27.82	4-20	2	

Cricket

By A G Smith, Teacher i/c 1st XI Cricket

2017 was my 38th and final season in charge of the BGS 1st XI. Unfortunately, the team's overall record was one of the poorest that I have overseen, although the team actually performed reasonably well in most games. When comparing records it needs to be realised that there have been a large number of changes to school cricket during the last 20 years.

In particular, the demise of time cricket has meant that all games are now win or lose, the draw available to teams up against it is no longer available – this worked both for and against us on many occasions in the past. The introduction of limited overs fixtures has also meant restrictions to the number of overs bowled by our best bowlers – none of our bowlers this season delivered 100 overs.

In comparison, Nick Cockcroft who took 57 wickets in 1999 bowled 284 overs, eight more than the combined total of our three main bowlers this year. The fact that our bowlers were restricted certainly contributed to a number of our defeats – we had Manchester GS 32-5, RGS

Newcastle 37-5 and, most notably, Woodhouse Grove 27-6 only to let them 'off the hook' when our best bowlers had to come off. We eventually lost all three games.

Our fixture list also did us no favours. St Peters, York were probably the best side on our circuit this year and we played them three times – the normal school fixture, the National T20 competition and the St Peters T20 festival. In addition, a number of our regular rivals had particularly strong teams (notably GSAL and Ampleforth) and even our Cambridge tour produced fixtures against an unbeaten school (Wisbech GS) and a strong county Development XI. It is true to say that the quality of our fixture list is as strong as it has ever been, such has been our success over the years. A number of our 'easier' opponents have disappeared and been replaced by stronger schools and this certainly counts against us at times.

Despite these mitigating circumstances, the team itself could have performed better. On paper, our batting was strong and we usually posted competitive scores but our totals were not as imposing as they needed to be – we only passed 200 once, in the final game against the Old Bradfordians. We were perhaps a little 'too safe' in our approach and failed to push on when we had the opportunity to post high totals; our running between the wickets could have been sharper and we needed

to show more urgency and positivity. One reason for this could have been the age of the top six – all were at least a year young and the same players should be able to impose themselves more next season.

The opening pairing of Will Smith and Will Luxton grew in stature as the season progressed and became our most reliable top order pair for a number of years. Will Smith is quite simply a run scorer; he has his own methods but they are certainly effective as his final total of over 400 runs testifies. He became the first BGS batsman to score a century against the MCC when steering the side to a creditable draw after we were 5-3 against a very strong bowling attack and he also had excellent innings at Ampleforth and Woodhouse Grove. His opening partner U14 Will Luxton also had a very promising season. Starting at number 3, he initially struggled to make the large step up to 1st XI cricket but after being promoted to open he went from strength to strength and was particularly impressive in the last few matches, scoring an excellent 81 at St Peters and then (another first for my time) carrying his bat for an unbeaten 64 against a strong Cambridgeshire Development side.

The middle order has the potential to score heavily. Charlie Andrews initially opened the batting before reverting to number three but failed to live up to his undoubted potential. He is a clean striker of the ball, capable of scoring freely, but often succumbed rather too easily and never delivered the runs that he promised. His real batting quality was shown when he and Robbie Williams were instrumental in the team winning the BGS six-a-side competition for the first time since 2000.



As Captain, Robbie led from the front and generally formed the backbone of our batting effort. Once again, he was the leading run scorer and was rewarded with his selection for the Yorkshire U19 squad at the end of the season, our first representative in this squad since Arkam Asif in 2010. The fastest scorers in the team were Oliver Croudson and Ben Merchant at numbers 5 and 6. Oliver had a rather inconsistent season but at his best he was quite devastating as demonstrated by his unbeaten 91 (from 49 balls) in our victory over Ashville in the National T20 competition. Ben was able to show his wide range of stroke play with a number of cameo innings in the second half of the season. The batting order was quite deep with senior players Dhaim Ghafour and wicket keeper Jawad Shad at 7 and 8. Jawad was always solid and played a number of important supporting innings while Dhaim could be devastating on his day as he showed with a 25 ball 48 not out in his final innings to secure victory over the Old Bradfordians.

Despite our batting potential, we struggled because of our lack of depth in our bowling. Our two most successful bowlers were Taha Zamir, who always bowled whole-heartedly and was ultimately the leading wicket taker, and Dan Brennan, who bowled intelligently and was the one bowler who consistently gave us some semblance of control. The most talented bowler was undoubtedly Subhan Farooq but despite some very impressive spells wickets eluded him and his haul of only eight victims during the season was quite bewildering. The main failing was the absence of a decent spinner to bowl the middle overs and back up the efforts of our seamers. Charlie Andrews worked hard to develop his off spin and Will Luxton took a few wickets with his leg spin but they were far too inconsistent and did not exert the control that the team required to slow the opposition's rate of scoring. One glimmer of light for the future came in the final match when U14 captain Aneeq Hamdani bowled our best spell of spin against the Old Bradfordians.

Our victory over (what used to be called) the Old Boys book-ended my 752 games in charge which started in April 1980 when an Ashley Metcalfe half century inspired a win against Bradford University. Those games have taken place in a huge variety of settings – we have played in most parts

of England (the north, the south west, the north east, the Midlands) but the BGS 1st XI has also experienced cricket (and life) in the Caribbean (Barbados, Trinidad, Tobago, Grenada, St Vincent), Canada and the USA, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Denmark, Holland, N Ireland, Scotland and Wales during my time in charge.

All these have provided fantastic experiences for all those involved and given me a wealth of memories, far too many to list here. Over that time I have enjoyed the support of a large number of people including a number of Directors of Sport (Mike Elford, Geoff Wappett, Charlie Lines and Caroline Taylor), Teachers i/c cricket (Steve Dunn, Richard Head, Andy Galley and Matt Wilde), cricket coaches, most notably Simon Kellett with whom I have enjoyed a shared partnership for ten years (but before that George Batty and Geoff Cope), and a number of groundsmen, none better than the present incumbent Scott Higgins who has made my job immeasurably easier.

I shall miss the day-to-day involvement with the boys but, as I write, the chances are that I will be involved in some capacity for a while yet. There is a lot of potential in the players remaining next year and the junior teams coming through which I would like to see come to fruition in the years ahead.

U12 XI

By M Wilde, Teacher i/c U12 Cricket

Regular readers will know that the U12 season begins in January and winter nets were enthusiastically attended with a number of individuals, both old and new, impressing the ever-watchful eyes of Messrs, Wilde and Kellet. The squad played nine games and recorded five impressive wins, the most exciting of which came against GSAL in May.

Frustratingly a BGS record of 161-2 in 20 overs versus Prince Henry's GS Otley in round one of the Cup wasn't enough to see us through to the next round; a very impressive knock of 110 off 63 balls from the PHGS opener guided them to a comfortable victory with five overs to spare. Leo Diffey a possible name for the future.

Over the course of the season over 20 boys played for the A XI, and a B XI fixture was also fulfilled. Individual performances improved throughout the duration of the summer and as the boys become more consistent, with age, I am confident that they will develop into very competent senior players. A number of players made it onto the 2017 honours board for significant contributions with bat or ball; congratulations to Mo-Yusuf Zahid, Will Ogden, Adil Akhtar, Hassan Qureshi and Alex Fisher. I must however reserve special mention for Captain George Hahn.

Not only was his captaincy of the team exemplary but his individual contribution was first class too! He made the honours board on five occasions, which included three consecutive scores of 50+ in the games versus PHGS, GSAL and QEGS Wakefield and a second entry for bowling us to victory in the nail biter against GSAL.

At the end of an enjoyable and successful season my thanks: to all the players too numerous to mention here; the parents, who have supported the team loyally; John Oakes for his valuable coaching and umpiring skills and to Mr Scott Higgins and his team who continue to produce schoolboy pitches of the highest quality, in often testing conditions.

U13 XI

By A Galley, Teacher i/c U13 Cricket

The attendance at early morning nets throughout the winter term was excellent and their application was commendable. The strength of the team was with their bowling and fielding, with the seamers led well by Jacob O'Connor, who received support from Finlay Kellaheer and Harun Mahammad. The spin department was impressive all season with Ben Grimmitt, Nick Miller, Mohamed Rohaan and Nish Rajpal all bowling well and taking wickets.

The batting saw the batsman making starts and playing forceful shots, however we failed to convert these scores into the fifties. Joe Fitzpatrick, Archie Horsfield, Charlie Voss, Finlay Kellaheer, all made good starts along with Ben Grimmitt, Mohamed Rohaan and Nick Miller.

The squad also saw impressive performances from Reuban Thandi, Ben Harrison and Fraz Ahmed. The B team six-a-side included Lewis Bloodworth, Sufyan Khan, Hassan Bashir performed well in the Silcoates Tournament, losing two tight matches but defeating Silcoates to come third in the group.

The most memorable matches in my mind were the epic struggles against a strong St Olaves, a tight match against GSAL and a last over thriller versus Birkdale.

U14 XI

By R Skelton, Teacher i/c U14 Cricket

What a year! It started with a defeat against Ashville College and ended with a defeat against St Peter's School, but everything in between was a testament to a team of cricketers working hard to win (with encouragement from Mr Skelton, Mr Schofield and Mr Kellett!).

Our first victory of the season against Woodhouse Grove was notable. Playing on the AstroTurf pitch, Woodhouse were put into bat. A strong bowling attack from Amrit Sharma (seven overs 2 wickets for 15 runs) ensured we kept their total down to only 126 for nine off 35 overs.



Aneeq Hamdani and Lawrence Wade stepped in with 56 and 30 not out respectively and ensured a decisive win. Our winning streak continued with a decisive win at GSAL. A cold and blowy day did not allow for a dull game. Full of action in the field with some spectacular catches (in particular from Oscar Andrews who ran, dived and caught the ball in mid-air) as well as Lawrence Wade and Ben Marsden securing equally difficult catches. We were able to bowl GSAL out for only 129 runs (Dylan Patel 3-28; Oscar Andrews 2-10). We replied with a convincing and winning batting performance from Lawrence Wade (53).

QEGS at home was a 'wash-out' – literally! We were in complete control of the game. QEGS all out for 72 from 19.5 overs (Pranav Balabadhra's notable bowling performance: 3-8). Hymer's College away was fortunately in baking sunshine. Hymer's could only manage 77 from 18 overs. Another strong bowling performance from Amrit (3-15) and Pranav (2-8) allowed for Aneeq to bat out the runs to a resounding victory (Aneeq 47*).

Our match against Birkdale School (away) was also testament to great fielding and bowling successes. Tom Celik (1-18 1M; Ed Harrison 2-4; Dylan Patel 2-14). Sufyan Mahmood stepped in for James Masterton as keep and made some excellent stops and catches. Birkdale School managed 93 from 20 overs, we replied with Will Luxton 34* and Aneeq Hamdani 34* to a resounding and well-deserved win.

Our greatest success was winning the highly coveted Pocklington 6s trophy. The squad included Will Luxton, Tom Celik, James Masterton, Aneeq Hamdani, Ahmed Naveed, Oscar Andrews and Amrit Sharma. Decisive win from a fantastic squad. It has been a great year, boys. I am sure next year will lead to even greater successes ...



that one batsman from Woodhouse dominated the bowling and scored an impressive 81 to lead the Grove home.

Things came together in our next match against GSAL and we romped to a satisfying 62-run win. BGS again batted first, but this time two individuals batted superbly and completely dominated the attack. Henry Smith (113) and Ollie Ogden (101n.o.) put on a memorable third wicket stand of 173. The score of 264-3 from 30 overs was a fantastic one and although the opposition went for the total, they fell well short with Sam Harrison the pick of the bowlers with 3-34. A single century in school cricket is quite rare over a season so to have double centurions in one match is quite remarkable. Well played boys.

Our next game away to QEGS Wakefield saw us repeat the winning habit in a very low scoring match. We put QEGS in and James Harrop (3-9) and Harry Pope (3-6) destroyed the QEGS batting line up as we dismissed them for just 50 runs. The run chase was not easy, but thanks to a steady 31 from Jake Fitzpatrick, we reached the total despite the loss of seven wickets.

The Durham fixture was cancelled because of rain and the game after this away to Ampleforth was an eight-wicket defeat. Because of a mix-up with the Duke of Edinburgh, we were forced to field a weakened team that included two U13 players. Another steady knock from Jake Fitzpatrick (41) could not prevent us from making a low 107 on a flat pitch and the Ampleforth batsmen easily knocked off the total in quick time.

Back to full strength for the home game against Hymers College we romped to a 95-run win. Batting first and led by Captain Henry Smith (94) we accumulated 189-7 from 25 overs. In reply Hymers managed only 94 thanks to good bowling from Jake Fitzpatrick (2-22), Sam Harrison (3-21), Sabeeh Irfan (2-0) and Harry Pope (2-6). This was a very satisfying win after the heavy defeat to Ampleforth the week before.



U15 XI

By L W Hanson, Teacher i/c U15 Cricket

Overall, the season for the U15 XI was a mixed one with three wins, four defeats and two matches lost to the weather. There were a number of notable individual success stories, not least a match that saw two batsman score centuries in the same game.

The first game at home to Ashville College saw the visitors capitalise on some variable bowling to accrue 146-7 from 25 overs. Unfortunately, no Bradford batsman managed to get a score above 20 and with no one player being able to get in and stay in for any length of time. The game soon got away from us and we were bowled out for 86 and went down to a 60 run defeat. The key thing in any defeat is to learn from errors made and try to improve. Despite losing the next game to Woodhouse Grove, there was improvement with both bat and ball. This time we won the toss, elected to bat and made 158 from 30 overs. Henry Smith (31), James Harrop (28) and most impressively Ollie Sunderland (39) played well and showed that there are runs in the side. The difference between the teams was

Cross Country

The Cross Country Club continues to have an outstanding season.

Millie Fewlass-Jones, Grace Dawson, and Alex Flaherty have all been selected to represent West Yorkshire in the English Schools Championships. Emile and Alex both qualified by winning their respective races in the West Yorkshire Schools Championships.

Our final game of the season against St Peter's should have yielded more than it did after we set a high target of 190 from 25 overs with creditable knocks from Henry Smith (45) and Ollie Ogden (43). Unfortunately the bowling, with the exception of James Harrop, was somewhat wayward and the fielding strewn with errors. A game we should have won got away from us.

As I said at the beginning, this was a mixed season for the team. I believe that they were capable of more wins, but there were notable performances and a number of individual successes. Henry Smith captained the side well and batted strongly throughout scoring 306 runs at an average of 57. If more players had achieved a similar level of consistency then the season would have been a very different one.

Girls Tennis

By M Harling, Head of Girls Tennis

What a season, one of great results in competitions and one of a mass increase of girls playing tennis at BGS. Again, another short term has meant a very busy term of tennis. Every week there has been a match or tournament being played on the BGS tennis courts.

Some preparation was started before the season as training was on offer for both girls and boys, which gave an indication of what the interest in tennis would be for the coming season.

The main highlights of this season were seeing over 30 Year 7 girls playing tennis in Games or at a lunchtime practice. The enthusiasm was evident every time the girls walked onto the court.

Unfortunately, not all of them got the chance to represent the School in tennis but hopefully next season the opportunities will be made possible. Those who did showed real promise in becoming confident tennis players in the future. Olivia Benson is one of those players, she was the U12s Captain this season and she led by example on the court.

Another highlight was this year's Aegon School Tennis Competition which we enter two teams in each age group at U13s and U15s. This year saw each team face some tough opposition but the girls who played raised their games, thus certain results must be mentioned.

The U13 A team consisting of the following players; Amy Dixon, Pippa Threlfall, Grace Cogan, Anuli Okeahialam, and Rebecca McCash had to play schools that were known to have very talented players, but this didn't hinder our girls' competitiveness. Wakefield Girls and GSAL were their opponents! After losing both the doubles matches against GSAL it was time to grit their teeth and work hard for the win, which they successfully did 4-2. If that was not dramatic enough when it came to the Wakefield Girls match, they were all square after the doubles and singles, so a championship tie-break had to be played for the decider. BGS won 11-9, now through to the knockout rounds of the competition in September!

Both the U14 and U15s had a mixed season, but again, girls who hadn't been given the opportunity to play for school had their chance. We had fixtures against St Peters, Hymers, Ashville and Sedbergh where around 20 girls could play at all different levels of ability. U15s had a busy season which saw Lizzy Hamer doing a great job at being Captain.

Two players that must get a mention due to their commitment and increased confidence on court in the U15s is Eve Wellings and Millie Wadsworth. Both these girls made so much progress in this sport this season. The hope is that they continue this into next season. The top four players in the U15s (Melody Seifzadeh, Lizzy Hamer, Freya Bellamy and Grace Lancaster) were selected to represent BGS at the Eton Independent Schools' Tennis Championships (ISTA). A great opportunity for them to play against top tennis schools such as Millfield, Queenswood and Repton. The top pair just missed out on going through to the main cup competition by 0.2 percent, gutted! The U14s were led by Mahum Sheraz who was very organised and grew into the role as Captain as the season went on. Some of the U14 players ended up playing with and against U15s, this saw players such as Natalie Griffiths and Antonia Robson raise their game as well as developing as players.

Congratulations must go to Grace Cogan for winning the school round of the national competition 'The Road to Wimbledon'. Every girl who did tennis in Games and lunchtime practice played in this knock out singles tournament, so around 70 girls competed.

'That was closer than the result suggests', this is a quote said several times this season by players because it reflects the frustration but also the competitiveness of the players. To their credit the BGS girls' tennis players are not ones who give up easily when under pressure. They dig deep to get the win. Overall, it has been a mixed season but a very encouraging one for the future of girls' tennis at BGS.

U12 Captain's Report

By O Benson, U12 Captain

This season we have had mixed results – our first match against Wakefield we drew 2-2, the second we won 4-2 against Woodhouse Grove and the next two we unfortunately lost. Although on paper these results don't look impressive, on court it is obvious how much we have improved in skill, tactical play and most importantly how we work as a team. I for one know my doubles game has improved dramatically and playing competitively has upped my game, in and out of school.

I would say our most memorable win would have had to be when we managed to defeat GSAL with a 4-2 win, as they are a very tough opponent to play in any sport. Considering quite a few of our team had not played much tennis before now, I think we have had a good season and I look forward to seeing how we improve further next year.

U13 Captain's Report

By A Okeahialam, U13 Captain

The season as a whole has been quite a successful one with the U13 girls playing eight matches in total, winning five, losing three. Six of these games being friendly and two being national cup matches (we lost one friendly, won both national cups).

As a whole we gained 31 games and conceded 30. Our trip to Eton also included some victories with our first pair Grace and Pippa making it through to the main tournament where they had to face many tough opponents. Throughout the season, members of the team have made great progress in their tennis skills and I am sure we are all looking forward to what the 2018 season brings.

U14 Captain's Report

By M Sheraz, U14 Captain

This year I had the opportunity to be the tennis Captain for the U14 girls' team. It was a great experience and I had a fun time. Although we had more losses than wins, overall I think that the girls played well and gave it their all. The first match of the season was a friendly game against Wakefield Girl's High School. We lost 0-4, however we were able to beat them 4-2 when we played them again only a few weeks later.

We then went on to lose against St Peter's 15-4 and Queen Margaret's 0-9. However, we were able to win against Hymers with a brilliant score of 8-1. At the St Peters festival, the girls tried hard and there was a high quality of tennis being played. However, there was some very tough opposition.

Finally, in the BGS invitational tournament the girls managed to come 4th overall, which was an amazing achievement. Throughout the season there has been some great tennis played. Even though we did lose quite a few of our matches, I think that we can learn from those losses and hopefully have an even better tennis season next year. The girls are all determined to keep improving and get better. It was a pleasure being the Captain this year.

U15 Captain's Report

By L Hamer, U15 Captain

This tennis season has been very busy for the U15 girls' tennis team with many full day tournaments. We played in the St Peters Festival where we achieved 4th place against many talented tennis players from schools such as St Peters, Queen Margaret's and RGS Newcastle. We also hosted the BGS Invitational Tournament where we were successful. All pairs got to the Plate competition where the A team managed to win it.

Another high point in the season was when we won a Saturday fixture against Hymers, Hull, which was a great achievement. We have played many other strong schools such as Woodhouse Grove, Crossley Heath and Sedbergh where we have had a selection of wins and losses but we were always in good spirits no matter the result.

The first two pairs were lucky enough to go to Eton College at the end of the season to compete in the ISTA Championships. The weather was perfect all weekend with a blue sky and sun but it made it very easy for some people to get a bit sunburnt.

Our opponents were all very talented so it was a very tough tournament but we all tried as hard as we could. The first pair was only 0.2 percent off from going through to the next round, which was frustrating. Because they did not get through to the next round, they had to go to Wimbledon instead. I think they got over their frustration pretty quickly.

At Wimbledon, we managed to watch a large part of the match between Aljaz Bedene and Ivo Karlovic, which lasted four hours and 25 minutes, so it was very exciting.

I would like to thank Mr Linfield for helping organise the whole tournament that, thanks to him, ran very smoothly. Also, thank you to Miss Smith for being a good supporter at the Eton tournament and for taking us to Wimbledon. Also thank you to Mrs Harling for coaching us this season and for organising all of our fixtures this year. Finally, thank you to the players who have made this season so enjoyable for me.



Hockey

By G Wilkinson, Head of Hockey

Overall hockey at BGS has been very successful this year, with 190 fixtures played, and an overall win percentage of 53.1 percent. This a fantastic achievement and I know that all of the hockey staff at BGS are proud of their team's performance, attitude and enthusiasm. With more students than ever taking part in hockey (123 girls represented the School at a competitive level), it is an exciting time to be a part of hockey at BGS!

Regular training sessions and fixtures have been well-attended and such worthwhile experiences this year. Despite losing a few of our coaching team, we know that the success will continue into the new season. From those of us that are leaving, we wish the girls all the best for the Nationals next year, and wish to tell the girls of how very proud we are them and what they have achieved so far!

Tour report

By M Campean, 1st XI Captain

The senior hockey trip to Holland this October was undoubtedly a huge success.

Our five-day visit was packed with fun day trips, team building opportunities and plenty of intense hockey. Staying by the beautiful beach of Zandvoort, we began the tour with a GoPro training session led by a former national player, in which we were able to improve and develop our attacking skills. We were unfortunately beaten in our first two matches; a 5-1 loss against HC Eemvallei and 2-1 to Zandvoortsche HC, however, after thorough discussion and reflection from our video analysis, we approached our final game with determination, finishing with a well-earned 2-1 win against Almeerse HC.

Alongside playing, we greatly enjoyed activities such as the 'Sherlocked' experience, visiting Amsterdam and Anne Frank's house, a trip to the waterpark,

team games on the beach and watching matches of high-level hockey. It was wonderful to see players from younger years flourish and grow in confidence and by the end of the tour, it was clear that we had developed a new mindset and extremely valuable connection and relationship as a team, which will hopefully continue to grow, allowing us to be successful in matches to come.

1st XI

The 1st XI have shown good improvements in their performance than in the previous year, winning six of their 14 matches played.

Their efforts in training have been consistently high, meaning they have been rewarded on several occasions with tremendous goals and defending as part of their hard work. Goalkeeper Fiona Holdsworth should get special mention for her quick reactions that kept the team afloat on several occasions, while Charlotte Horsman's control of the midfield meant the ball was evenly distributed up the pitch.

A win against Hymers, 5-0, kick started the season in a convincing manner, then with specific training on composure in the attacking D leading to further victories against Rishworth and GSAL after Christmas. Forwards Maddie Oliver and Rosie Ogden were particularly quick to pick up set plays, meaning the team were able to convert goals in open play with good success.

The girls were unlucky to come up against Stonyhurst in their last match of the year, on a bleak and rainy March afternoon. A loss at home against them fortunately did not dampen their spirits, and despite a negative result, Captain Maria Campean provided strong leadership ensuring the girls enjoyed their last match as a team.

U15 XI

The U15s have had a difficult season this year, resulting in some tough losses in challenging circumstances.

Coming up against big hockey schools whose fitness over shadowed the girls', they battled well but were often unable to put the ball in the back of the net. Despite this, the girls trained and played with vigour and enthusiasm, showing team spirit and commitment at all times. As BGS's most competitive year group, Captain Neesha Khan led the way, putting in some determined tracking back to defend, while Alicia Cumberland acted as a key utility player throughout the season.

Matches of particular mention include beating Stockport Grammar 1-10 where we have lost in the previous two seasons; beating Ashville 3-1, improving on the draw from the year before, and finally playing brilliantly at the Bradford Invitational Tournament in October, with fast, flowing hockey and some great goals.

The U15s were lucky enough to have had three goalkeepers this year, Izzy Moorhouse, Stella Richards and Astrid Knox-McConnell, with Astrid taking up the role in the second term, showing good progress at this challenging position.



U14 XI

The U14s won 57 percent of their matches this year, a statistic that highlights what a positive season this team has had. Under the leadership of Laurenne Pickard, the team has developed and matured into a confident group of young players.

The enthusiasm has been contagious within this group, with training sessions being purposeful and fast-paced (when they aren't chatting!).

Players A 3-1 win against Stockport Grammar is particularly notable achievement early in the season, as well as successes against Silcoates and Ashville. Against Rishworth they played a particularly exciting game, and were unlucky to draw after being in the lead for most of the game, conceding a goal from a short corner after regular time had finished. The U14s were unlucky to have a number of matches cancelled throughout the year, but this did not dampen their spirits and all students showed vast improvements over the course of the season.



U13 XI

The U13s have been faced with the transition of seven-a-side matches to the full pitch this year, meaning they have had to adapt to playing different tactics with more players, in a much larger space requiring more fitness.

That being said they have adapted to the challenge, producing solid team performances throughout the year. Amber Kenyon and Grace Dawson aided a strong attack, while Emyr Sheikh and twins Lorna and Louise Nelson developed their defensive skills successfully throughout the season.

Great performances against Ashville, Silcoates, Rishworth and Cheadle Hulme were particularly notable wins, with captains Anuli Okeahialam and Amy Dixon doing fantastic jobs at leading from the front in their respective matches.

U12 VII

The U12s have been the most successful year group this year, averaging a win rate of 73 percent across all three teams.

This has been testament to their hard work, commitment and love of the game. Many of the players only started hockey this year, but the efforts they have put in mean they are unrecognisable at the end of the season. In addition to this, many of the girls have taken up the game outside of school at local clubs, boosting both their performance, and raising the standards of their peers at school. We have high hopes for this squad going into the next year, and wish them the very best of luck in their national school campaign.



The A team, captained by Ana Campean, put in some notable performances this term, finishing with a positive goal difference of 41! High winning scores against Silcoates (6-0), Rishworth (11-0), Ackworth (13-1) and Hull Collegiate (7-1) are just an example of the successes that made this possible. Goals were scored by many of the girls, with exceptional finishes from Ellie Koral, Sarah Bradley, and Rose Midgley. Paired with strong defensive skills of Elise Beevers, Sylvie Rutherford, and Olivia Benson to name a few, goals against them were few and far between.

The B team were almost equal in success, carried forward by some fantastic skills from Molly Barnes, Lydia Robinson and Emily Gibbons. Wins against St. Bedes and the formidable Cheadle Hulme are accolades this team should be proud of, as well as their successes at the Bradford League Competition, where they came second only to the A team.



U12 Captain's Report

By A Campean, U12 Captain

This has been a great year for the U12 Hockey team. We started the year not knowing each other well, but it developed so much more, creating a strong team where we worked together really well and had lots of fun.

We won our first match 5-0 to Rishworth, and even though we lost our next match to Wakefield, we progressed a lot, only losing one other game in the whole season.

Therefore, out of the 12 matches we played, we won all apart from two losses and a draw. I think these are great results, giving us high hopes for next year.

Captains 16/17

1st XI – Maria Campean

U16 – Ester Jackson

U15 – Neesha Khan

U14 – Laurene Pickard

U13 – Anuli Okeahialam/Amy Dixon

U12 – Ana Campean, Emilia Glover

Representative Honours

Congratulations to all of the students that made it through the various stages of the England Hockey Performance Programme.

West Yorkshire, Junior Academy Centre (JAC)

Milly Fewlass-Jones

Amy Dixon

Alice Barnes

Grace Lancaster

Pippa Threlfall

Grace Dawson

Sarah Bradley

Emily Gibbins

Ellie Koral

Anna Campean

Gus Muirhead

Sam Young

Myles Barton

North, Junior Regional Performance Centre (JRPC)

Lucy Spencer

Freya Bellamy

Will Ogden



Sport
continued ...

Netball

1st VII

By G K Jones, Teacher i/c Netball

Having been to Australia on tour in Summer 2016 and competing with the high level of opposition that the tour presented them with, the 1st and 2nd team squad were not only well prepared but a very tightly knit group of players. They had learned a lot on tour and throughout the season the benefits of tour were seen on court.

Played.....	16
Won.....	9
Drawn.....	0
Lost.....	7
Goals For.....	485
Goals Against.....	428
Goals Difference.....	57

Captained by Abbie Spencer, who led the team from the front with her competitive edge, the 1st VII competed well throughout the season. After faltering in the first game of the season against Fallibroome Academy, despite a strong defensive and mid court display, the squad focused in training upon attacking set plays and building confidence in the shooting circle. They went on to win their next two games against Cheadle Hulme and Wilmslow.

Local rivals, Woodhouse Grove, presented a stronger opposition and despite a good performance, the BGS girls took a loss. With the National Schools' County Round looming, it was time to analyse and improve. The girls worked with application and in the midweek game preceding the competition, tested themselves against Greenhead College who themselves had reached National Finals' in 2016. With strength coming from the 11 strong squad we won by a ten goal margin and went into the weekend tournament with positivity and belief.

Competition at the County Round was strong and as always BGS were amongst the strongest competitors. However, with fine margins determining the teams progressing to the next round, our girls didn't have quite enough to get over the line. This disappointment was exacerbated a few days later with a loss against Loughborough in the Independent Schools Netball Cup (ISNC) competition.

With both national competitions sadly now concluded the squad had to find renewed motivation for the rest of the season to continue their improvement and play with quality in the Saturday fixtures. Despite a number of challenges, they embraced the 'Hoc Age' spirit and won six out of the remaining ten games. In terms of performance, our 1st VII rose to the challenges of the strongest opposition, and despite losing, played their best netball against Sedbergh and Hymers. The latter was sadly the final game for this squad who had not only benefited from the development of their netball but also experienced the camaraderie and close bonds which have become typical of our senior teams.

1st VII awards

Player of the Season **Izzy Wellings**

Most Improved **Sally Bertrand**

Players' Player **Becky Ashurst**

2nd VII

By G K Jones, Teacher i/c Netball

Played.....	15
Won.....	7
Drawn.....	1
Lost.....	7
Goals For.....	295
Goals Against.....	298
Goals Difference.....	-3

The 2nd VII at BGS is always a happy place to be and captained by the fervent Sarah Varley there was a special vibe amongst this group of players. With quite a broad spectrum of personalities and skills the players complimented and encouraged each other through the season, always with smiles on their faces.

In spite of a three game losing start the team persevered and began to turn the season around with a 24-17 win against Woodhouse Grove. They went on to claim victory against GSAL which was rewarding given the hard work done in training.

The remainder of the season saw mixed results and as with the 1st VII the 2nd VII sadly ended on a loss after taking on RGS Newcastle 1st VII. For the 10 girls in the squad however it has been a season where many happy memories have been made.

2nd VII awards

Player of the Season **Philippa Bailey**

Most Improved **Katie Robertshaw**

Players' Player **Sarah Varley**

U16A

By G K Jones, Teacher i/c U16 Netball

Played.....	11
Won.....	6
Drawn.....	0
Lost.....	5
Goals For.....	252
Goals Against.....	285
Goals Difference.....	-33

The results from the U16A tell their own story. The team peaked and had a winning streak of five games without loss in the middle of the season, after a poor run of form at the beginning, and a loss of form at the end.

Competition was fierce for these girls, aside from a heavy defeat to GSAL and a big winning margin against Stonyhurst. All games were keenly contested and rarely decided by more than one or two goals.

This fierce competition along with support from players from the talented U15A squad helped them achieve the status of national finalists and 2016 13th best team in the Country. Excellent captaincy from Anna Masterton despite ongoing injury problems guided the team to progress through both the County and Regional Tournament to compete with the likes of Millfield at the tournament in Welling Garden. The team gained mixed results on the day but I couldn't have been prouder of their performance and the quality of netball on display.

U16A Awards

Player of the Season **Issy Clarke**

Most Improved **Megan Bulmer**

Players' Player **Becky Harvey**

U16B

By G K Jones, Teacher i/c U16 Netball

Played.....	10
Won.....	3
Drawn.....	0
Lost.....	7
Goals For.....	138
Goals Against.....	157
Goals Difference.....	-19

The U16B have had a challenging season this year. Fixtures are always hard to come by at this age group with not all schools fortunate enough to have the same commitment as the BGS girls.

As a result the majority of games have been played against A squads from other schools which has proven to be a tall order but one which the girls have coped with well. Most games have been closely contested as is proven by the overall goal difference.

U16B Awards

Players' Player **Claudia Kenyon**

Most Improved **Misbah Khan**

Player of the Season **Izzy Robinson**

U16 Highlights

- Catherine Allen regional academy
- National Schools every round
- A squad beating Sedbergh by 1 goal
- Seeing Izzy Robinson progress to A squad
- Win for B v Nottingham
- Draw with Cheadle

Awards

Players' Player **Francesca Grace**

Most Improved **Armani Mir**

Player of the Season **Maia Hammond**

Captain and Vice **Francesca and Zarah**

Players' Player **Catherine Chapman**

Most Improved **Catherine Chapman**

Player of the Season **Grace Lancaster**

Captain and Vice **Lucy and Sophie**

Players' Player **Eve Wellings**

Most Improved **Lizzie Hamer**

Player of the Season **Georgia Rayner**

Captain and Vice **Jaya and Mel**

Players' Player **Claudia Kenyon**

Most Improved **Misbah Khan**

Player of the Season **Izzy Robinson**

Players' Player **Becky Harvey**

Most Improved **Megan Bulmer**

Player of the Season **Issy Clarke**

U15A

By G K Jones, Teacher i/c U15 Netball

Played.....	13
Won.....	9
Drawn.....	1
Lost.....	3
Goals For.....	322
Goals Against.....	257
Goals Difference.....	65

The U15A have had an outstanding season. There have been many notable personal and squad achievements. Georgia Rayner, Jaya Krishna, Millie Wadsworth and Eve Wellings all gained selection for County Academy, in addition to which Lizzie Hamer and Ella Moran have been selected for County Satellite Academy.

All of this squad have represented BGS at their respective clubs throughout the season, gaining valuable experience to bring back to school netball. This commitment to netball is what will make the team stronger moving forward.

Captained by Millie Stephenson the U15A have had a high percentage of wins throughout the season, beating quality opposition such as Woodhouse Grove, Stonyhurst, Wilmslow and Hymers and drawing against local rivals GSAL.

The only disappointments of the season came against Withington Girls' and Stockport in the ISNC where the girls needed to be really on their game against two very strong and fluid attacking teams and unfortunately produced two under par performances.

Many of this squad have also played for the U16 in the National Schools' Competition and featured strongly in the starting seven.

Here they progressed through the county and regional rounds to reach the National Finals. All the girls played their part in this success but none more instrumental than Millie Wadsworth in the regional round, whose shooting stats were out of this world, and Georgia Rayner in the finals whose tenacity and incredible intercepting boosted the whole squad against incredible opposition.

U15A Awards

Players' Player **Eve Wellings**

Most Improved **Lizzie Hamer**

Player of the Season **Georgia Rayner**

2017 to 2018 Captain and Vice **Captain Jaya Krishna and Melody Seifzadeh**

U15B

By G K Jones, Teacher i/c U15 Netball

Played.....	14
Won.....	11
Drawn.....	0
Lost.....	3
Goals For.....	182
Goals Against.....	109
Goals Difference.....	73

These girls work incredibly hard to form the highest quality B squad in school. The strength and depth in this age group and the presence of a C squad pushing for places in the higher team has only served to enhance this age group.

The win ratio throughout the season has reflected how good these girls are, with the only losses coming at the hands of A teams from other schools and GSAL outscoring all other opponents by double the score.

Grace Lancaster has led by example and played an outstanding role as Captain throughout the season. Along with Sophie Clough, they have created a formidable shooting partnership, strengthened by Amber McAllister whose versatility has extended further in to a shooting role in the second part of the season making her an invaluable part of the team at both ends of the court.

Overall, this squad is the most successful age group in school:

- B squads close games in bfd league against the best A squads in the area – particularly their one goal win over Skipton where Amber debuted as GS
- A squad winning all of their Saturday games except the 1st one where many of the girls were at County Trials
- The way both Millie (umpire) and Miss Smith have raved about the quality and strength of their play
- C team performance at the District Tournament where they won three out of five games.

All the girls have been a pleasure to coach although a little loud.

U14A

By G K Jones, Teacher i/c U14 Netball

Played	11
Won	3
Drawn	0
Lost	8
Goals For	141
Goals Against	225
Goals Difference	-84

In terms of results, the U14s have definitely had more losses in comparison to the amount of games that they have won. However, this does not reflect the progress that the girls have made as a team and as individuals.

When comparing this year's results to last year's, the girls have definitely made improvements. A highlight of the season would be beating GSAL away, who are an extremely strong side. It was also lovely to be able to finish on a high, coming first in the Bradford schools tournament and allowing some of the girls to sample a different position.

Although as a group, they love a good gossip and a chitchat they are a very hard working and tight knit unit and are consistently looking to improve and progress. Despite suffering quite a lot this season, the girls have persisted and stayed positive and just continued to take each game and each training session as it came, putting in maximum effort when required and pulling together to showcase some class passages of play.

Going into next season we need to look at consistency in play and being able to cut down our on court errors. The possibility of playing up an age group to represent the U16s in nationals needs to be an inspiring and competitive factor for

a few of the girls going into next season. As a team, we would like to wish Glesni Jones the best of luck with her rehabilitation over the summer following a netball injury she picked up earlier in the season. I would also like to thank the girls for the support that they have continued to show for Glesni. I would also like to thank Eva Lockett and Eve Murphy for their fantastic captaining skills and contribution to the squad.

U14A Awards

Players' Player **Eva Lockett**

Most Improved **Kate Mighell**

Player of the Season **Anna Cooper**

2017 to 2018 Captain and Vice **Hannah Crookes and Lizzie Lucas**

U14B

BY G K Jones, Teacher i/c U14 Netball

Played	14
Won	5
Drawn	3
Lost	6
Goals For	103
Goals Against	134
Goals Difference	-31

A very mixed season in terms of results for the U14B squad but one where they have never given up even when behind in a game. They have truly taken up the BGS motto of 'Hoc Age' (just do it!) to heart and shown true grit and determination.

This squad made considerable progress both individually and as a group. It has been a bit of a headache in regards to selection as the B squad is bigger than the As, with lots of midcourt players to juggle. Either end of the court has been quite consistent with a few guests making an appearance in the shooting circle such as Kara Hickman and Emily Mellor.

Everyone involved in some stage in the U14B squad played a vital part in achieving so much this season especially establishing such a good team moral, which was evident at the Bradford Schools Tournament. They lost out in getting to the final because a penalty pass had to be given to the opposition Skipton Girls in the shooting circle, after the final whistle had gone which they successfully scored from! The girls were gutted as they played with so much passion.

The main highlight of this season has to be the win against GSAL, which always goes down well! Some individual moments of real pleasure include seeing Funmi Ogunde making a great interception, Izzy Kenyon smiling from ear to ear when she got her mojo back in terms of shooting, and when Gowri Kanakath screamed her head off in a defensive wall, terrifying the opposition into making a mistake!

Izzy Kenyon has been Captain this season and a very reliable one. Whoever comes next will have a hard act to follow. A few players have been knocking on the door of the A squad. Encouragement must go to each player to continue giving their all next season as so much more can be achieved.

Overall, it has been an absolute pleasure coaching and umpiring this squad.

U14B Awards

Player's Player **Funmi Ogunde**

Most Improved **Izzy Kenyon**

Player of the Season **Funmi Ogunde**

2016 to 2017 Captain and Vice **Sophia Koenig-Gimeno and Gowri Kanakath**

U13

By G K Jones, Teacher i/c U13 Netball

I have thoroughly enjoyed coaching the U13 squads this season. Having been new to the school at the start of the season I was taken back at the amount of talent on show, which immediately sparked a lot of excitement about the upcoming season. I was eager to observe them playing in a competitive situation.

Having had such a vast amount of girls showing interest and commitment to the sport through training, we have had three squads.

U13A

By G K Jones, Teacher i/c U13 Netball

The A team have had a very successful season. Their season overall has consisted of two losses, one draw and a respectable 13 wins, including comfortably winning the Bradford schools tournament back in March. Despite each individual having a natural talent for the game, I could always rely on the girls to give 110 percent both in training and matches.

They are willing to challenge and push themselves both individually and as a team, in order to achieve and their hard work has made a huge contribution to their accomplishments. A real example of their determination and desire was showcased in the third round of the national cup, against RGS Newcastle in December. Despite playing hard for a full hour, the girls continued to perform for not one but two rounds of extra time, and narrowly lost out in the last 30 seconds of the match. Their athleticism, teamwork and perseverance were admirable. As I'm sure you can imagine, and may have even been told, it was extremely gutting for both me and the girls, but set a strong standard for the rest of the season.

I have no doubt that these girls will continue to progress and perform, and will live up to our high expectations next year. They will have their first run at national schools next season and if the hard work continues, I think the girls will be shocked at just how well they can do.

I would like to say a huge thanks to Bella Barton and Ava Hanafin who have captained the squad this season.

U13A Awards

Player's Player **Anuli Okeahialam**

Most Improved **Becky McCash**

Player of the Season **Grace Cogan**

2017 to 2018 Captain and Vice **Anuli Okeahialam and Emryss Sheikh**

U13B

By G K Jones, Teacher i/c U13 Netball

The B team have had a mixed season in terms of results, ending with more losses than wins but with some memorable wins against the likes of Ashville who they beat 17 to 22, and GSAL who they beat 27 to 19.

The development and progress that this team has made has allowed the speed at which the girls play at to increase massively, enabling them to challenge and compete against A teams from opposing schools.

This age group in particular is very competitive and the fight for positions seems to bring out a need to achieve character amongst the players which as a coach is delightful to see.

Although I can't mention each player individually, as there are so many of them I would like to give a special thanks to our Captains – Kate McNab and Emily Hartley. They have been very dependable this season and I have noticed how encouraging and organised they have been both on and off court. Two key players who (like others) are wavering on the edge of an A team position and it was great to be able to watch Kate play for the A team against RGS Newcastle at the beginning of the month.

I would also like to mention to Maddie Nix, another very eager player who also made a strong first team appearance towards the start of the season, and Pari Darabi our gutsy GD who as well made her first team debut this year.

U13B Awards

Player's Player **Pari Darabi**

Most Improved **Emily Hartley**

Player of the Season **Kate McNab**

U13C

By G K Jones, Teacher i/c U13 Netball

The C team have played five games and one tournament this year and it has been lovely to witness players within the team working hard every week in training, trying to improve whilst enjoying playing competitive matches against opposing B team squads.

The matches have allowed the players within this squad to experience what it is like to play competitively, and for many this has led to them pushing on to make B team appearances. Their ball handling, and knowledge of the game has dramatically improved since the start of season, and many should be going into next season with the fight and desire for a permanent B team position.

U13C Awards

Player's Player **Ruth Allwood**

Most Improved **Sonia Daad**

Player of the Season **Ruth Allwood**

U12A

By G K Jones, Teacher i/c U12 Netball

The Year 7 girls just highlight the positive ethos towards netball and girls sport at Bradford Grammar School with over 30 girls regularly attending training. We have run two squads and many of the girls have played in both the A and B squads at different times of the year.

Played	18
Won	7
Drawn	1
Lost	10
Goals For	169
Goals Against	246
Goals Difference	-77

It has been a challenging season for U12A and they had to endure some heavy defeats at the beginning of the season against the likes of Cheadle Hulme and Wilmslow. They have however come back strongly with commendable wins against Crossley Heath, Sheffield Girls School and Hymers in the latter stages. In addition to this, they are Bradford champions both in league and tournament campaigns.

Over 15 girls have represented the A team at some point or another in the season, some in multiple positions as they have developed over the two terms. It has been lovely to see how they have bonded and appreciated each other's strengths and weaknesses. We have had smart shooting from Anna Reed-Purvis, Georgia Turner, Leah Schlosshan and at times Anna Durkin, Hannah Gill and Molly Barnes; the shooting technique and circle court craft of all of these girls has developed, and in the most recent games, the use of the circle edge was much improved. This is an area to continue to focus on next season.

Ana Campean, Elise Beevers, Molly Barnes, Anna Durkin, Olivia Benson, Sarah Bradley, Anamaria Heaton and Hannah Gill have all played their part in an increasingly dynamic centre court – where ball handling is unrecognisably good in comparison to the start of the year. Ball placement and giving the pass into a space for a team mate to run onto is still an area for improvement. Great strides have also been made in terms of court discipline and structure.

Anamaria Heaton, Ellie Koral, Elissa Hartley and at times Sarah Bradley, Emmy Glover and Silvie Rutherford have been the stalwarts in our defence. Tactically they have all learnt a lot from the tough Saturday fixtures and were absolutely dominant and resolute in their defending at the Bradford League matches and tournament, where many teams struggled to register a score against them.

Overall, it has been a season which has marked progress and laid the building blocks for the future for this squad, which will continue to see both the team as a whole and individuals pushed and challenged by the B squad.

U12A Awards

Players' Player **Anna Reed-Purvis**

Most Improved **Ellie Koral**

Player of the Season **Molly Barnes**

2017 to 2018 Captain and Vice **Anna Reed-Purvis and Anamaria Heaton**

U12B

By G K Jones, Teacher i/c U12 Netball

Played	17
Won	8
Drawn	0
Lost	9
Goals For	137
Goals Against	124
Goals Difference	13

Throughout the season the U12B have played well-matched and competitive games seldom winning or losing by more than one or two goals. The most dominant performances of the season came against Sedbergh Prep School and Nottingham High School but the most keenly contested and highest in quality was against Wilmslow.

As with the A team there have been over 15 players who have represented the B squad at one point or another. Some of these girls have had to work hard and keep believing, as competition for places in this squad have been fierce, so selection has been difficult for some. At the beginning of the season there was a real mix of quite knowledgeable and accomplished players (some of whom have already been acknowledged as featuring in the A squad) such as Emmy, Hannah, Tehya, Olivia, Lydia, Silvie, Sarah and Rose M and a number who were new to the game or at a less confident level of skill. Eliza, Ananya, Scarlett, Sienna, Emily G, Eleanor, Rose, Naina, Millie, Emily H, Alice, Caitlin, Sophie, Saffah and Zainab.

This set of girls have probably impressed me the most in their attitude and application and have all developed to contribute to a strong competitive B squad. Testament to them is how well they performed against our A team in the semi-final of the tournament, having qualified by beating A squads from other schools.

U12B Awards

Player's Player **Emmy Glover**

Most Improved **Alice Winkley**

Player of the Season **Lydia Robson**

2017 to 2018 Captain and Vice **Hannah Gill and Rose Elliot**



Orienteering

By D Alcock, Teacher i/c Orienteering

Fourteen BGS pupils enjoyed an orienteering weekend in the Midlands on 19 to 20 November, culminating in the British Schools Orienteering Championships at Sutton Park.

Two members of last year's fourth placed Year 7 boys' team – George Worthington and William Westlake – were joined by Finlay Kelleher to go one better and earned bronze medals and a podium place in the Year 8 boys' category – the best ever team placing since orienteering established itself as a sport at BGS.

George was also 11th individual in a strong field of 54. The Year 9 team was seventh and a small group of Year 7 pupils gained experience in the sport. Congratulations to all who took part!



Rowing

By S Damborough, Teacher i/c Rowing

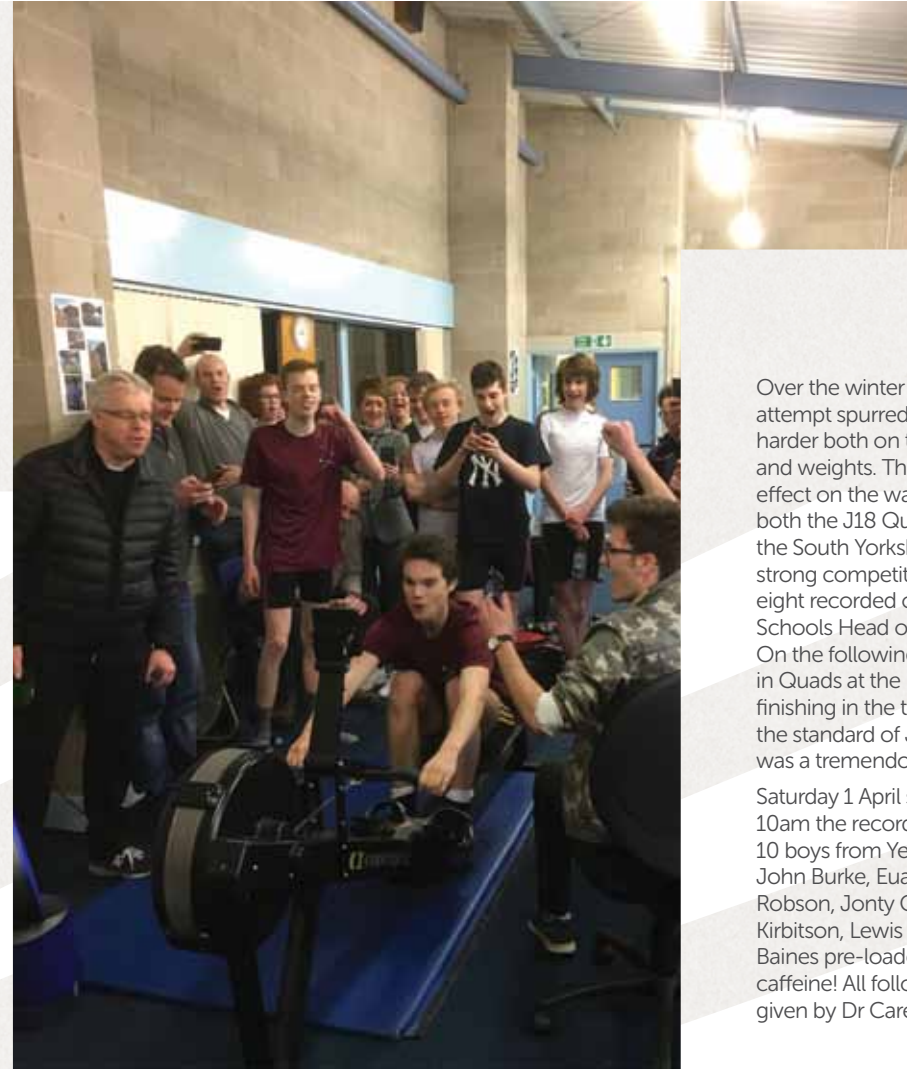
The School boat club enjoyed a successful year with perhaps one of the strongest senior squads we have had for a number of years.

In the autumn Euan Adam and Ben Wood won the J17 double sculls at the Boston marathon (a race over 31 miles) and then at the York small boats head showed their versatility by winning the J18 coxless pairs. At the Newark Head the senior squad rowed in, and won, the senior eights event, beating the RAF and Nottingham crews in the process.

Also in the autumn, the squad enjoyed their annual training camp in the Dutch town of Gramsbergen, culminating in the Vecht race held over a 6km course that starts in Germany. With six entries in the J18 singles all the squad put in tremendous performances with Tom Robinson coming out on top to win the event overall. As part of the training they then doubled up to take part in the second race of the day, also over 6km. Although all raced well, the Dutch crews proved too strong.

Later in the autumn term, the senior squad came up with the idea that they wanted to attempt to break the World U19 Lightweight 24 hour rowing ergometer record. This was inspired by a previous generation from BGS who had broken the U19 world record in 2011. By choosing to go for the Lightweight record, other factors came into play, with Tom Robinson and Euan Adam being very close to the 75kg weight limit, diet management would play an important role over the coming months.

As soon as a date was set for the record attempt (very aptly 1 April) we were very fortunate to enlist the services of Dr Adam Carey, a parent at BGS and one of the country's foremost sports nutritionists, to assist in the attempt. His talks and advice given to both the boys and their parents played probably the most important part of the attempt and can never be underestimated.



Over the winter the thought of the record attempt spurred the squad on to train ever harder both on the ergo, the Swingulator and weights. This training had a positive effect on the water with the squad winning both the J18 Quads and Coxed Fours at the South Yorkshire Head against very strong competition. In March the first eight recorded our highest placing at the Schools Head of the River in over 25 years. On the following day the same boys raced in Quads at the National Sculling Head, finishing in the top 20 crews which given the standard of Junior sculling nowadays was a tremendous performance.

Saturday 1 April soon came around and at 10am the record attempt started with the 10 boys from Years 11 to 13, Tom Robinson, John Burke, Euan Adam, Ben Wood, Will Robson, Jonty Casson, Alex Broadbridge-Kirbitson, Lewis Day, Daniel Field and Felix Baines pre-loaded with beetroot juice and caffeine! All following the dietary advice given by Dr Carey.

Supported by many parents and other members of the boat club, who during the first 12 hours were also taking part in a sponsored row, attempting to row the equivalent distance of Bradford to London and back, the boys got off to a tremendous start. Special mention must be made of Tom Bradley who could not take part due to illness but was next to the machine for the whole 24 hours inputting the distances onto the spreadsheet and giving encouragement.

The hours and hours of training really paid off, with the changeovers being especially efficient with very little time being lost. The boys quickly settled into a rhythm of rowing, winding down, resting, warming up, and rowing, all in a 20-minute cycle. The support that the boys got from the parents throughout the night was incredible. At 9am the next morning after 23 hours the record, previously held by the Orlando Rowing Academy USA, was broken with the boys, now running on pure adrenalin, pushing the new record on by 18,000 metres to finish with a new world record of 389,317 metres.

The effort, teamwork and organisation that the boys put into this world record can never be underestimated; as can the support from the parents, who together with the boys managed to raise over £3,000 for the Boat Club.



After the Easter break, the summer regatta season started with wins at York Regatta for the J18 quad, Robinson, Wood, Adam, Burke and the J18 double scull of Robinson and Adam who also won at Durham City regatta. At Durham Regatta the quad lost by just three feet to St Leonards school in the final, defeating crews from QEHS Hexham and York city on their way to the final.

The performances by the Quad and Double resulted in us entering the National Schools Regatta at Eton Dorney where the boys were unlucky enough to experience the worst of the conditions in the time trial and only making the 'D' final. It was very galling for them to see all the crews that they had beaten during the season finish ahead of them in the 'B' and 'C' finals.

After this disappointment, the decision was taken to enter the Fawley cup event at Henley Royal Regatta for Junior Quad sculls, an event that the School had not previously entered. In the qualifying event held over the regatta course at Henley on the Friday evening prior to the regatta, we borrowed a top class racing boat from Hollingworth Lake Rowing club, to give us the best possible chance. In the end, we finished a very creditable 28 out of 49 crews competing for 14 places at the regatta, only ten seconds off qualification.

Overall, the past season, although not the most successful in terms of wins at events, has seen tremendous efforts from all the year groups competing, especially from the younger members of the Boat Club. The J13 and J14 squads are looking particularly strong for the future with some very good performances against very good club crews this year.

Rugby

1st XV

By J Oakes, 1st XV Coach

The 2016 to 2017 1st XV Rugby season was kicked off in the best possible style with a demanding pre-season camp set in the Transylvanian mountains of rural Romania. The high altitude and hot weather facilitated the bonding of what was a young and inexperienced team.

Following a gruelling four days in camp, the boys began the season with two warm up games, the first of which was set to be against a well-established local rugby club housed in the city of Brasov. Unfortunately something must have been lost in translation with the tour organisers as 22 giants emerged from the tunnel proudly wearing the yellow and blue of the national team. Though initially shocked by the size and physicality of their opposition the BGS boys rallied around Captain Harry Boyd to record a memorable and hard fought win.

The highlight of this particular match was a length of the field try from Boyd, which showcased his class. Several boys shone in the pressure cooker environment, with a large partisan crowd. Henry Reed-Purvis was a stand out in the forwards. As was the lesser spotted Rouhie Inayat-Sahota who produced the performance of his school career before receiving a free transfer to Ermysted's.

This fixture then set the scene for a second, and this time expected clash with the Romanian national U17 side at the National Rugby Stadium in Bucharest. This game was preceded by a 2nd XV fixture of real quality where many boys put their hands up for 1st XV contention, none more so than Year 11 young guns duo Sam Murphy and Harry Boland.



As expected, a physically superior Romanian team came out of the blocks all guns blazing and dominated the contact area. Thankfully, from the outset the BGS boys stuck to the 'wide wide' philosophy from the training camp and managed to keep pace with their hosts until the final 20 minute third. At this point Romania powered over for two tries in quick succession and it appeared that the game would get away from a tired Bradford team. Fortunately, the BGS outside backs showed their class and managed to build a lead with some exciting running. Kristen Dobson and Oliver Croudson were instrumental throughout this game for BGS, providing the pace and vision, which secured a deserved second victory in Eastern Europe for a team now bustling with confidence.

Back to the UK and the tricky prospect of Hymers College away to start the season proper. A 25-20 win perhaps did not reflect the dominance that BGS displayed with ball in hand, however the boys knew that a more complete performance would be required in future weeks with the scrum in particular under heavy pressure. Charlie Andrews produced his play of the season to pull off a perfectly timed 'Hodgeson ball' to seal the win. This was followed by a painful draw away at Crossley Heath in a game where moments of class were far too often followed by basic errors. The boys then had a tough run of games against quality opposition in Stonyhurst College, Manchester Grammar School and Nottingham High School. Unfortunately suffering three heavy defeats on the bounce did little to build confidence in a young side.



This left the team with the difficult prospect of facing a strong Woodhouse Grove side, ranked among the top five teams in England. The pressure cooker environment of Friday night lights at a packed West Park Leeds added to the intrigue of one of the north's great rivalries. In true Bradfordian spirit the men from Frizinghall rose to the occasion and produced the performance of the season. The backs produced a tactically astute kicking game, which gave the team a foothold against much larger opponents. The real heroes of the night were the forwards who stood up and were counted. The scrum, which had been a real issue early in the season found parity. Props Luke van Berckel and Nardeep Madhas climbed in to the bowels of hell that night and emerged with new confidence in the set piece. A 29-14 loss did not reflect the closeness of what was an outstanding game of school boy rugby.

A new sense of confidence swept through the squad, which gave the boys arguably their most memorable victory of the year against a strong GSAL team. A last gasp try deep in injury time from flying winger, Will Smith, was one of the moments of the season. The reaction of his team mates displayed what positive team spirit the boys had established.

The boys' season finished on a high with an outstanding team performance against Ampleforth College. Over the preceding weeks, much work in training had gone in to implementing a new attacking style. Encouragingly, the boys adapted well to this expansive style of play and sowed some seeds of optimism for next season.

Special mention should go to the departing Year 13 players who, in difficult circumstances, stuck with their teammates and helped pull the team through what was at times a difficult season. Progress made with more to come next September.

2nd XV

By J Purvis, Teacher i/c 2nd XV Rugby

2016 was not an easy season for the men of the 2nds. Superficially, this is shown by our single victory away to Ashville but you would be wrong to think that the season was a complete washout. For instance, we would have stood a decent chance away to Hymers College at the start of the term, had they not called the fixture off.

A spirited performance at Stonyhurst College saw the team claw back to a score by the final whistle after a poor first half. Against GSAL, but for a dropped pass we would have come back to win having scored one of the most extraordinary 2nd tries that their coach has witnessed. There was heroism too against Woodhouse Grove, where injuries steadily depleted both team and bench. This was the lads putting their bodies on the line.

I pay tribute to the time and effort that the team devoted to the cause this year. At no point did their heads drop. Many of them return for another crack in 2017, when I expect a number of these defeats to be turned on their heads.



U16 XV

By C Scott, Teacher i/c U16 Rugby

2016 was my first exposure to Bradford Grammar School and BGS Rugby. With the benefit of hindsight, I could not think of a better group of people to introduce me to BGS life than the U16 XV Rugby squad. Let us first focus on the type of people they are, rather than simply the type of players they are, because for me as an educator, I feel that is ultimately the most important thing.

As people, they are a group of fine young men who have made me feel very welcome and who, more to the point, have proven that they can stick by each other. As rugby players, it's a fair assessment to say that our team includes a variety of talent and rugby experience, ranging from boys who have regularly represented in higher grades, to those that in the past have had very limited experience. This of course represents certain challenges for a coach.

It is true that it takes plenty of tweaking and adjusting to find the right balance in a game plan for a team like ours, particularly when you consider the standard and size of most of our opposition throughout the season. However, this job has been made considerably easier by a 'get in and get it done' sort of attitude displayed by the boys. I hope and believe that with this approach to their rugby, every player has improved in their own game.

As the season has progressed, I have witnessed increased confidence in the way the boys carry themselves. I have seen considerable development in terms of both skill acquisition and application as well as positional awareness and implementation of effective game strategy. Led by our fearless skipper Harry Bolland, these improvements showed in a number of noteworthy performances throughout the season including a well-earned win against Nottingham High School and a very close call against Trent College, where our boys almost beat a considerably bigger, and more experienced team.

Furthermore, it was with great pride that we in the BGS coaching team witnessed a number of the U16s represent in 1st XV and 2nd XV games as the season progressed and when U16 XV oppositions

were not available. I'd particularly like to mention Sam Murphy who represented at 1st XV all season as well as Harry Bolland and Tom Handy who did so on a semi-regular basis. There has also been a number of other boys who have had some minutes off the bench for the 1st XV and should be congratulated for their efforts.

A number of boys received special recognition at the end of the season as award winners. Congratulations to Tom Austin (Best Back), Harry Bolland (Best Forward) and Naj Bassett (Players' Player). A true indicator of the strength of this team as a tight group of young men is the fact that three or four boys really could have received any one of the above awards. It was a very close run thing. I hope that the lads feel some satisfaction with their progress and are looking forward to contributing to the Rugby Programme in 2017 to 2018 as seniors. I believe in their ability and commitment to make very real progress in the future.

I would like to thank Mr John Oakes for his leadership in the Rugby Program and his assistance throughout the season. Finally and most importantly, thank you to the boys for their commitment and attitude, and their families for their support and assistance.

U15B XV

By O Theaker, Teacher i/c U15 Rugby

The U15B team squad have had a challenging season. Many of the starting players from the previous year earned promotion to the A team and each week saw players making their debut for the School. Through these challenges, the squad pulled together and showed admirable team spirit.

We regularly had 30 lads training with them all representing the School at some point in the season.

The hard work was rewarded with an outstanding 46-0 win against a physical Stonyhurst side and a hard-fought 29-22 victory against an evenly matched Pocklington side.

It has been particularly pleasing to see so much commitment from the players with several earning a sevens call up and many of them catching the eye of the senior coaches as potential in future years.

U14A

By M Wilde, Teacher i/c U14 Rugby

This season 23 games have been played at A and B team level, giving 45 U14 boys the opportunity to represent this great school. In terms of development, the players have progressed as teams and as individuals.

The squad have set themselves a real benchmark in terms of their commitment, enthusiasm and self-reliance; it has been a real pleasure to coach this particular group of boys.

The A XV were as skilful as any side on the circuit. Moving the ball away from contact and avoiding heavy collisions suited the players strengths; consequently the boys won all but two of their games. Woodhouse Grove and St. Peter's York thoroughly deserved their victories against us. We were equally as skilful but couldn't match either side's physicality; the volume of contact eventually taking its toll in the second half of both games. Whilst the B XV struggled for wins, they were only outclassed once and are to be credited for their unstinting commitment week in week out searching for that elusive victory.

The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the sevens season post-Christmas. I was delighted to see so many boys choose to continue with the shortened version of the game and this undoubtedly made a significant contribution to the squad's success. The squad qualified for the cup stage of all the HMC NE Super Seven Series that we entered; the victory at the Barnard Castle Tournament was fantastic, despite managing to save some of our worst rugby for the final.

The season climaxed at the Sherborne School Invitational in deepest darkest Dorset. The squad travelled to Yeovil on Saturday, calling in at Gloucester's RUFC

training base in Hartpury en-route for a session with Jacob Rowan. On arrival at Yeovil, the boys enjoyed pizza, but not England's defeat to Ireland in the Six Nations before going to the cinema. On Sunday, after a hearty full English, the boys performed well against some of the strongest, traditional boarding schools in the country. A slow start and a two-point defeat against Eton, in our first game, cost us a place in the final. Victories against Bryanston, Marlborough College, Bristol GS and the hosts Sherborne secured a creditable 3rd place.

At the end of the season my thanks: Mr SA Kellett, in his role as B XV coach. Mr AJ Galley and Mr JG Oakes, for supporting the squad at the numerous sevens tournaments. Mr Scott Higgins and his staff for the provision of the excellent playing facilities we enjoy at BGS. The dedicated band of parents who support both teams and the rugby club so loyally and of course all the boys, too numerous to mention individually here, who work so hard and give up so much time in representing this great school. I wish them all well for the future and record my heartfelt thanks for such an enjoyable season!

U14B XV

By S Kellett, Teacher i/c U14 Rugby

The U14B rugby side had a mixed season as far as results were concerned, with some strong performances resulting in narrow defeats.

The team improved through the year and were unlucky to lose some games with the Trent College last minute defeat particularly hard to swallow.

At B team level our emphasis is on the development of players rather than results and our aim is to improve the players so that they become members of the A team. A special mention must go to Freddie Stonelake who led the team with gusto.

U13 A and B

By S Kellett, Teacher i/c U13 Rugby

The squad headed into the season after a difficult year as U12s. They approached the training and importantly the matches, with great enthusiasm.

There were many highlights through the season with some of these even being defeats to QEGS Wakefield and GSAL, where the squad showed great resilience to fight back in the second half. The ability of the squad to interlink forwards and backs allowed the team to maintain its width in attack and to engage an off loading approach to their play.

The B team also worked hard and developed through the season claiming a number of notable victories. In particular, their performance against St Olaves York typified their work rate and belief in each other.

The squad continued their development and positive approach during the sevens season. Their record during the tournaments was notable with only one defeat in 16 matches. The players enjoyed the challenge of the competitive training sessions both on the mental and physical side, and this clearly shone through in the fixtures throughout the season.

Squad

E Bolland, X Clarke, A Doulah, B Grimmit, A Horsfield, F Kelleher, N Mehrgan, N Rajpal, W Westlake, G Worthington, J Fitzpatrick, A Flaherty, R Midgley, J O'Connor, M Weatherhead, R Welsh, S Whitehead, I Bell, H Burns, P Johnson, R Savage, B Harrison, R Hawthorn, A Malik, G Midha, H Muhammad, M Rohaan, F Azfar, L Bloodworth, K Khan, N Taylor, R Thandi, C Voss

U12A XV

By D Pullen, Teacher i/c U12 Rugby

Scores	App	Tries	Total
George C Hahn (Capt)	10	14	70
William CF Ogden (V-C)	10	7	35
Gus F Muirhead	9	3	15
Joseph Howson	7	3	15
Redford Holdsworth	8	2	10

Many of the boys who played this year in the U12 squads were new to the game, or had played very little rugby, and the progress made over the season should be highlighted.

They were the smallest side in every fixture, credit should be given to the game plan. Coaching implemented by Mr Wilde and the rest of the games staff with all the junior teams that has allowed them to thrive and compete.

The season began with an untested squad at Hymers, where a clearly more talented side dominated the game with BGS losing by eight tries. Hymers were stronger, faster and better drilled than BGS, deserving a victory beyond any doubt, but the U12s did not help themselves by failing to pass and tackle low. Local rivals Prince Henry's were next on the fixture list and it gave BGS a chance to show their potential.



The first half was typical of an early season encounter with both sides struggling to play open rugby, and a number of errors leading to turnovers of possession. The second half was a different story. BGS started to move the ball wider and quicker with good effect. There were tries for Captain George Hahn (2), Joe Howson, Gus Muirhead and Redford Holdsworth. Will Ogden distributed well and the coaching from the first few weeks of term was beginning to show.

BGS returned to Hymers confident that they could give a better performance than in their first match. The team agreed



afterwards that they had indeed improved in three areas highlighted before the game. They passed the ball to a greater extent, tackled lower and put the opposition under pressure in defence. The performance was much better and the players did not let themselves down. Next up was a massive fixture against Woodhouse Grove. This was a competitive game for the U12s, in which they fought back valiantly, however it was lost in the first 15 minutes when errors allowed the hosts to score a number of early tries.

Things improved towards the end of the first half when Holdsworth made a great line break, and numerous attacking phases led to a deserved Ogden try. With the score 25-10 at half time the players were confident they could get back into the game, which they did. This was George Hahn's half! He followed his hat trick against Hymers with one in 20 minutes against Woodhouse. BGS won the second half 15-10 and were more than deserving of that scoreline, but it was not quite enough.

South Craven travelled to Frizinghall next and BGS were caught napping in the opening half of this fixture against the school from Cross Hills.

South Craven were able to score three unanswered tries before BGS began to put their training into practice and work better as a team. The BGS squad all played well, but again it was Hahn and Ogden who controlled the game and scored the points, with Ogden accumulating his own hat trick. The squad was now beginning to play to the patterns set out in practice and new players were finding their place. However, the next three games against GSAL, St Olaves and Pocklington, resulted in heavy losses as BGS failed to build on

the positive points of the previous game. The lack of size and depth told against much stronger sides, and despite the emergence of players such as Jonty Mighell and Joe Howson. BGS were well beaten.

The U12s got back on the winning trail against Trent College. BGS clearly played the better rugby and had great ball retention, as they progressed through almost 20 phases, leading to early tries. Muirhead continued to run hard at defences despite his small stature, with Ogden and Hahn exploiting the spaces this created out wide. They took confidence from this into the final game against QEGS Wakefield, that was a more competitive game than the score suggested, and QEGS did not come away from this fixture with an easy victory. BGS had the majority of possession in the game and their ball retention was excellent throughout, though they lacked the strike players in depth that enabled QEGS to score their points. Hahn, Ogden, Muirhead and Howson matched any of the QEGS squad. Unfortunately for BGS a 15-minute spell of seven unanswered QEGS tries either side of half time dictated the result, most of these coming from lapses in concentration or poor tackling.

However, BGS never gave up and QEGS were put under continual pressure in the final ten minutes of the game. Ogden was fantastic at first receiver, distributing well to supporting players, particularly Muirhead and Hahn who were causing havoc all over the pitch, and scored a try apiece in the second half to worry the QEGS players.

Howson stood in well at acting half, and had a number of strong runs himself. It was a great team performance, with everyone contributing. Stonelake, Tahir, Thornber and Qureshi helped win good ruck ball, whilst Nazir, Chandramohan and Abdullah made a number of telling breaks when given the opportunity. Jonty Mighell played out of his skin despite only a few hours' sleep on scout camp the night before! This was a great confidence booster at the end of a tough term and despite a lack of depth it bode well for the sevens circuit.

The sevens season was a success overall. It was again Hahn and Ogden who had dominated, with Hahn scoring over 30 tries in the five tournaments, but it gave opportunities to players on the margin of the A squad, such as Charlie Moran, Mudiwa Nyikadzino, Rayhan Khan, Amar Sheraz, Oliver Peace and Jacob Rees, to show their potential and develop further from the additional training. Mr Wilde developed an effective strategy for a team lacking big and strong strike runners, and this proved to be extremely successful against more fancied opposition. The squad performed well on an overnight trip to Warwick and in our own BGS sevens tournament, (the B squad even had a win in their home tournament) but they were still failing to cope with the stronger teams.

The matches at Hymers boosted their confidence, as they did not lose a game, and despite a couple of bad losses at Pocklington, more of the squad were beginning to contribute. The tournament at St Olaves finished the season perfectly. BGS won five of their six games including against RGS Newcastle who had beaten them twice in previous tournaments.

This squad has the potential to do well. Results may not have been in their favour, as there is no match for size and strength at this age, however the skill development and organisation in what was the first year of rugby for many of the players should prove fruitful. If the rest of the squad can improve around the core members of the squad, then they should become competitive against the bigger schools. They played an exciting and open brand of rugby that was entertaining to watch and fun to play and I wish them all the best in their rugby careers at BGS.

Swimming

By B Townsend, Teacher i/c Swimming and Waterpolo

It is rare for swimming to be a victim of the weather, but for the John Parry relays held in November, we were snowed in and could not travel. The swim team this year has once again performed to a very high standard. The enthusiasm of the senior boys, especially Captain Ed Truby, seemed to rub off on the younger age groups.

Our opponents this year once again seemed to have more strength in depth and the galas against Audenshaw and Heckmondwike Grammar were lost by a touch in most of the relays. The home and away fixtures against Woodhouse Grove and GSAL were very close affairs with excitement up to the last races. It was pleasing that, for the home fixtures, we were able to hang on for victory whilst narrowly losing out away.

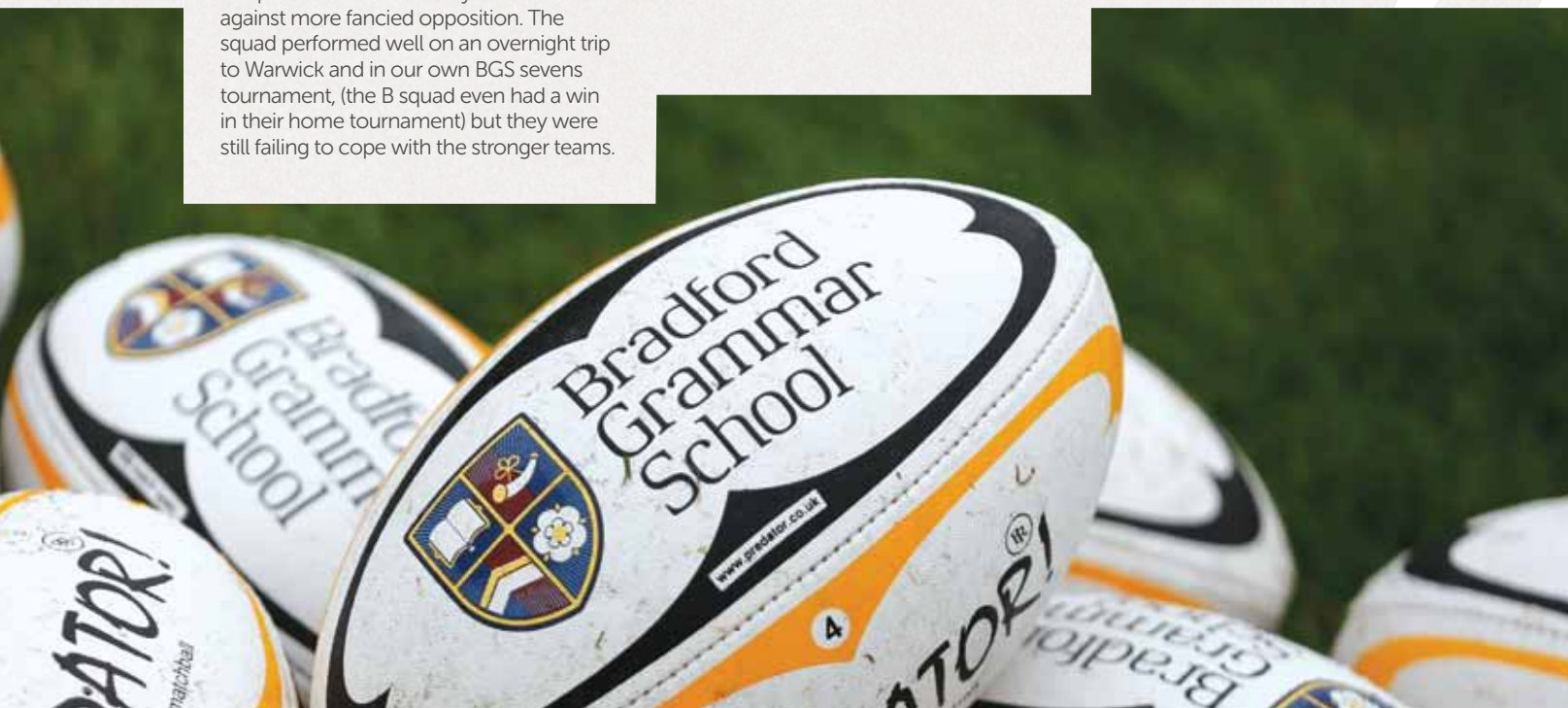
Once again, Miss Cover (Barnard Castle School) organised a gala held at BGS for the original schools entered in the John Parry Relays. With Durham School unable to attend, it left Stoneyhurst, Sedburgh, Barnard Castle, Ampleforth and BGS to battle it out. Our U15 boys were second to Sedburgh by 43 points to 32, whilst the senior boys won their group with a 13-point winning margin over Stoneyhurst of 45 points to 32.

The senior boys' team of Ed Truby, Tom Robinson, Theo Azfar, Will Marshall and Rory Dickinson, were once again invited to the prestigious Bath Cup and Otter Medley relays at the London Aquatics Centre, organised by Otter Swimming Club for HMC schools.



We travelled to London on the Thursday for a 'warm up' gala at Whitgift School in Croydon before the main event the next day. The prospect of swimming in such a grand venue against some of the top schools in the country can be nerve wracking, but the boys acquitted themselves very well. Although they did not reach any finals, they all enjoyed the experience.

Overall, another enjoyable year, with some good victories on the way, from a team proud to represent BGS. Thanks to Ms. Gibbons for her help chaperoning the girls, and also recording and collating the results. Captain Ed Truby has led by example and encourages the senior squad to attend training regularly, no doubt contributing to their victories.



Waterpolo

By B Townsend, Teacher i/c Swimming and Waterpolo

This year marks the end of an era in BGS water polo. We lose nine players who have formed the nucleus of a team from Year 9. Indeed Captain Michael Beadle and Ed Truby came up the hard way from Year 7, when they worked and trained with the then senior players on Wednesday afternoons.

This laid the foundation that made them the fine players that they are today. In Year 9 they were joined by Tom Robinson, Tom McAllister, Paul Khullar and Ben Norton. They developed a strong bond and team ethic that held them in good stead throughout their BGS career. By Sixth Form they had been joined by Rory Dickinson, James Smare and Conor Sheen. In spirit and performance, they may be matched in the future, but never bettered.

The English Schools tournament was disappointing this year. With a new organiser for the tournaments and games not meeting deadlines, it meant that despite the seniors losing out in the semis of the bowl, there was no plate final to play for. With all the frustrations of the ESSA, the boys vented their frustrations in the annual Old Bradfordians fixture. Mike Nixon's report of the event will follow.

The U15s reached the plate finals, producing some very good water polo along the way, despite their lack of match practice and experience. St. Edwards, Liverpool and ourselves were the only teams to make themselves available for the final tournament. In a hastily arranged game at St. Edwards the boys eventually succumbed to home advantage, losing by 13 goals to four.

We had our usual 'friendlies' with St Bedes School at both age groups. The spoils were shared as usual but these matches are invaluable and provide much needed match practice for our boys. The U16s missed out this year due to the changing of the age groups last year. Hopefully they will come together and perform to their usual high standard over the next two years.



Table Tennis

By A Crabtree, Teacher i/c Table Tennis

Bradford Grammar School Table Tennis Club has had a very busy and successful year. The U19 girls' team finished third in the ESTTA Team Table Tennis Finals, four teams reached regional finals and six teams reached the Zone Finals of the ESTTA competition.

All four teams won their West Yorkshire Schools' Games competitions and the school teams were West Yorkshire Team winners in four age groups. Individually Aliza Khaliq and Nicholas Miller won the West Yorkshire U13 girls' and boys' title respectively, and Joshua Poulsen, Nicholas Miller, Emily Mellor, Aliza Khaliq and Evie Davies were selected to represent the Yorkshire Region.

In a new two player format of competition for the U19 girls Hibah Mahmood and Sophie Yung worked well together as a team. Both are good singles players and together they formed a solid doubles partnership. These proved the key to making the national finals where doubles victory had given the girls narrow 3 to 2 victories, twice over Horsforth and also against Bosworth Academy, Leicestershire.

In the national finals, the girls struggled against two sisters in the top 20 of the national rankings from Tudor Grange School Solihull losing 5 to 0. With last year's winners Harefield Academy missing their players because of international duty, BGS were competing against Horsforth for second place. Each girl won one out of two singles, but this time the girls lost in a tight five set doubles match to finish third.

This year three other BGS girls' teams had also reached the zone finals. The U16s had to face Ackworth School, with three girls in the top five national rankings in both the West Yorkshire and Zone Finals, but despite defeat, BGS defeated all other teams to qualify for the regional final in Blackburn. The U13s had defeated Horsforth in West Yorkshire, but finished second in the Zone also qualifying to Blackburn. The U11s played well in the Zone, but lost to stronger teams from Nottingham and South Yorkshire.

In the region the U16 team of Aliza Khaliq, Emily Mellor, Mahum Sheraz and Nithila Sampath (All Year 9) played well but found Lancaster Girls Grammar and St Marys Hull too strong. The U13 team of Pippa Threlfall, Serene Liu, Basmah Razi and Lydia Crabtree, all playing in their first regional finals, competed well winning a few games in finishing fourth.

I believe BGS are the only team nationally to have entered a team in each age group of the ESTTA competition. Bradford Grammar School and St Marys, Hull were the only schools with four teams in the regional finals.

Sport
continued ...

The boys' U13 team were the most successful of the boys' teams winning the West Yorkshire team event and the Zone Finals, remaining undefeated against good opposition from Bradford and Leeds Beckfoot School, GSAL and Horsforth. Nottinghamshire: Carlton Le Willows Staffordshire: Queen Elizabeth Grammar School and South Yorkshire Tapton School.

In the regional finals in a tough competition, the boys played well defeating Thomas Telford 6 to 2, but losing 5 to 3 to Lincroft School Bedford and the winners St Mary's Hull 7 to 1. This result places our boys in the top 12 teams nationally. Nicholas Miller, Rayhan Khan, Alex Davies, Isaac Li and Will Stephenson have trained hard all year and improved their standard of play.

Locally, once again BGS dominated the West Yorkshire Schools' Games winning all four competitions at U13 and U15 in boys' and girls' against teams from all five partnerships across West Yorkshire.

BGS hosted the West Yorkshire Schools Individual Championships in January. The girls U13 tournament was won by Aliza Khaliq, and the U13 boys competitions was won by Nicholas Miller. Nicholas reached the quarter finals of the competition and Aliza won two games in the group stages.

Joshua Poulsen (U16 boys) Emily Mellor (U16 girls) and Evie Davies (U11 girls) all finished second in their West Yorkshire competition.

Thank you ...

... to every pupil, parent and member of staff for helping to make this year at BGS truly remarkable.

