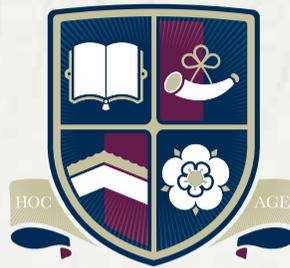


THE SUNDAY TIMES
Northern
Independent School
of the Year
2018



Bradford
Grammar
School

SPRING
2018

CHALLENGE 03-05
THE ARTS 06-07
COMMUNITY 08-11
LIFE 12

Mac Age



Feature

BGS sibling success!

Alex and Rebecca Flaherty
have both qualified for
this year's English Schools'
Athletic Association
(ESAA) National Cross
Country Championship ...

CONTINUED ON PAGE 03

BGS pupils Alex and Rebecca Flaherty are already West Yorkshire Schools' cross country champions, and are now ecstatic to achieve places in this year's ESAA National Cross Country Championship. Congratulations!



Welcome from the Headmaster

Spring term began positively. The 'Good Schools Guide' and the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) turned their attention to the fine grain of BGS life.



We were delighted to receive glowing reports from both. Draft statements for the next 'Good Schools Guide' suggest that BGS 'blends traditions with forward thinking and pro-active change' that 'academic standards are still excellent but ... it offers far more than its results' and 'pupils and parents alike told us that there is something here for everyone, always something to excel at and someone to help you achieve it'. ISI was more economical, they said: 'pass'.

We were also thrilled to find out BGS had been awarded the accolade of 'The Sunday Times' Northern Independent School of the Year 2018. Alastair McCall, editor of 'The Sunday Times Parent Power,' said: 'Bradford Grammar is in a good place, combining strong academic performance with a caring culture that encourages all students to excel in their chosen field, both within and outside the classroom. The school explicitly puts pupils' happiness at the centre of what it does. In an age of growing fears about the pressures put on children to succeed, this enlightened approach helps BGS stand out from the crowd.' All colleagues at BGS remain delighted for our students and supportive parents who invest so much in school life and share in these collective achievements.

However, we are still modest. It is our habit to listen to members of our community, to benchmark ourselves against outstanding schools elsewhere and constantly strive to improve. The current investment in the development of sport in Junior School, Senior School and Sixth Form testifies to our aspirations and commitment to deliver the very best educational offering we can to our fantastic pupils.

As ever, 'Hoc Age' shines a light on some of the wonderful things at BGS. We model honest ambition, make the most of opportunities and have some fun along the way.

Simon Hinchliffe

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IN THE PRESS ... bradfordgrammar.com/press



MAR/APR

- 23-27 March French Chateau Study Trip, Normandy France
- 17 April Chamber Concert
- 20 April Religious Studies retreat
- 21 April OB Swimming and Waterpolo Match
- 24 April Leavers Concert
- 26 April Open Morning (Junior, Senior and Sixth Form)
- 27 April Non-uniform day
- 28 April Spring Fair

MAY

- 18 May Leavers' Lunch
- 22 May Brownlee Mini Triathlon

JUN/JUL

- 22 June Senior School Speech Day
- 2-4 July Cricket U13 Tour, Midlands UK
- 3 July Summer Concert

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 01

Alex 13, from Menston, said: 'I represented Yorkshire at the Inter Counties Championships before, so that's been great. Now, to be chosen alongside my sister to represent West Yorkshire at the English Schools' Cross Country Championship 2018 is really exciting! When I've finished school it would be brilliant to represent my country in cross country running and try to make people in Britain proud.'

'Mr McCartney takes me out running at lunchtime and the sports teachers are so enthusiastic and helpful. It's the all-round atmosphere that makes me happy at BGS; the supportive teachers, the friends you have, and the great sports facilities.'

Rebecca, age 12, agreed: 'I am inspired by the Brownlee brothers because they came to BGS and worked very hard and persevered, running for the School cross country team. What is great about BGS is they have many different sports and they encourage everyone. The sports teachers are all very qualified and they help you to be the best you can be.'

Mike McCartney, Cross Country Coach said: 'To have siblings, a boy and girl who are both excellent runners, is unparalleled. We have specialist coaches in cross country, cricket, rowing and hockey and many with county and national experience – which is fantastic for the pupils. I can't think of a single sport we don't offer the opportunity to take part in.'

Alex and Rebecca's mum Sarah could not be happier. She said: 'I am very proud of them both. It is wonderful to see the way they support and drive each other. They love running but they also put in a lot of hard work, running in all sorts of conditions – wind, rain, snow and usually lots of mud! They have also had great support both from the School and from Bingley Harriers.'

BGS Headmaster, Simon Hinchliffe said: 'Alex and Rebecca are terrific pupils in every sense. We are all delighted for them. We believe in offering a wide range of opportunities, both inside and outside the classroom, for personal development and growth. Alex and Rebecca model our values with their 'get up and give it a go' spirit encapsulated in our age old school motto 'Hoc Age'. Naturally, we are very proud of them.'

“...”

Sport at BGS is for everyone, whatever their ability, from beginners to the very best.

MIKE MCCARTNEY
Cross Country Coach

“...”

John's performance of Delius's 'La Lune Blanche' was spectacular!



BGS on 'Great British Railway Journeys'

BGS appeared on Michael Portillo's 'Great British Railway Journeys', in January on BBC Two. The programme included a fabulous interview with our Music Teacher Mr McOwen and amazing singing from one of our Year 10 pupils.

In October last year, BBC Two's 'Great British Railway Journeys' with Michael Portillo came to BGS to film a segment for an episode focusing on 'successful immigrants', one of which was Frederick Delius OB.

Armed with his Edwardian Bradshaw's guide, Michael Portillo conducted important research in an historic tea room, built by an

Edwardian immigrant to the city of York. Research of a more sombre kind lead Michael to the roots of our modern welfare state in the work of an early 20th century Quaker investigator, whose family manufactured chocolate.

Next stop was Leeds, where Michael discovered the city's textile heritage, which relied in Edwardian times on a group of skilled Jewish immigrants to take it forward. Michael learnt how some of the big names built their empires in Leeds and measured up to a footballing legend. At Bradford Grammar School, Michael heard the story of a talented Edwardian student who became a famous composer and enjoyed one of his works, sung by a music pupil of today.

The highlight of the BGS segment was certainly the interview with music pupil John Scholey, Year 10, after which John sang Delius's 'La Lune Blanche'.

CAPTIONS
1 The highlight of the BGS segment was certainly the interview with John Scholey, Year 10, after which he sang Delius's 'La Lune Blanche'.



BGS debating success

On Saturday, 3 February, we took five teams to participate in the 2018 Manchester Schools Debating Competition.

Fifty-two teams took part. Two of our teams, Edmund Milwain and Christian Burke and Phoebe Abruzzese and Alex Broadbridge-Kirbitson, made it into the final, ranking 1st and 2nd respectively in the competition up to that point.

We are pleased to report that in the grand final Edmund and Christian were triumphant, thereby retaining their title from the previous year. Other teams put on a creditable show, all gaining at least one second or first place in their debates. Many thanks and much appreciation are due to Mrs Liz Kingsley, who drove the minibus, and Tegan Johnson (OB), who was coach and vocal supporter on the day.

Batting for success

BGS hosted around 200 players in the West Yorkshire Schools Individual and English Schools Table Tennis (ESTTA) Zone Finals.

Sixty-six individuals came from across West Yorkshire and 32 teams of four players came from Staffordshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and South Yorkshire to compete against teams from West Yorkshire.

All competitions were played over four age groups for boys and girls Under 19, 16, 13 and 11 with individual winners qualifying for the ESTTA individual finals in April in Aldersley Edge and two teams in each age group qualifying for regional finals in Blackburn or Grantham in February.

Qualifiers on the day were BGS U16 girls who were winners. The team of Emily Mellor, Aliza Khaliq, Mahum Sheraz and Pippa Threlfall who knocked out Ackworth in the first round and played in the regional finals in February.

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Our cybercrime fighters win through!

Five pupils have qualified for the national finals of a competition to foster careers in the cybercrime fighting industry.

The team is in with a chance to win the fantastic prize of an all-expenses paid trip to the United States to represent the UK internationally as part of the UK-wide CyberCenturion competition.

More than 2,000 pupils took part in the competition this year, where they had to discover and fix vulnerabilities on computers that criminals might exploit.

The successful BGS team comprised Year 12 pupils Zain Hussain, Saif Panni, Daniel McNab, Ahrus Asim and Saul McShane.

Zain Hussain, from Bradford, said: 'I can't believe it. I really did not think we would get through to the next round considering how difficult the previous challenges were, but I'm very pleased and excited to face the challenges which lie ahead.'

Ahrus agreed: 'I've thoroughly enjoyed the experience as the challenging problems were fun to solve, especially when we all worked together to try to approach the problem in different ways.'

Toby Birkinshaw, BGS's teacher of computer science, said: 'The competition was a real test of students' technical and problem-solving abilities. Getting through the three, six-hour rounds is an achievement in itself, but for one of our teams to make it to the national final in their first year of competing is an exceptional feat. Congratulations to all the pupils who took part.'

BGS's head of computer science, Christine Harvey said: 'It's important that pupils find out more about Cybersecurity and how to better protect themselves and our country against online threats and cybercrime.'

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Student volunteers make a real difference. Bradford Grammar School (BGS) pupils have harnessed this enthusiasm during 'Student Volunteering Week' inspiring others to get involved in their communities.

Our pupils get V.inspired for social action

“...”

The younger people start to volunteer to support good causes, the more likely civic engagement will become a habit for life.

SIMON HINCHLIFFE
Headmaster

More than 230 Sixth Form students have registered with V.inspired, the UK's leading volunteering charity for 14 to 25 year olds. It helps young people to make their mark on causes that they care about, whilst learning new skills along the way, like teamwork and problem solving.

Julia Cumberland, aged 17, from Ilkley said: 'With V.inspired you can volunteer to help out in your community in different ways. It is about doing something good and meeting other people who also want to make a difference. Whatever you are into, wherever you are, however much time you can commit, volunteering with V.inspired can change your world.'

BGS Headmaster, Simon Hinchliffe said: 'Research shows that social action can increase resilience and confidence, not to mention employability. The younger people start to volunteer to support good causes, the more likely civic engagement will become a habit for life.'

'At Bradford Grammar School we have been working with local schools and charities for some time. It is the right thing to do and we enjoy it. Our pupils see that by giving to others we ultimately enrich our own lives and the wider Yorkshire community.'

Andy Crabtree, BGS teacher and V.inspired overseer, said: 'So many young people are already more engaged, more informed and ready to take action than any generation before them.'

'Our pupils are working with several organisations to provide volunteering opportunities for our students. Age UK, Barnados, Bevan House Well Being Centre, Heaton Primary School, Frizinghall Primary School, One in a Million, Shipley Glen Tramway, Aireborough Supported Activity Scheme and Chellow Heights Stay and Play are all providing opportunities for our students to make a real difference in the community.'

'Other students have arranged their own volunteering and many students volunteer within school as Sixth Form mentors, homework club helpers, volunteer coaches or classroom assistants. So far, they have committed over 1,500 hours of volunteering in five months.'

Students are awarded for their hours of commitment with many having already achieved the V5, V10 and V30 award. Three students have gone beyond with over 50 hours of volunteering since September for which they've received their V50 award.

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CAPTIONS
1 BGS debating finalists
2 Let's hear it for the girls!
3 Philip from Arkwright Engineering scholarships came in to school to award and interview our current engineering scholars
4 'It's important that pupils find out more about cybersecurity and how to better protect themselves and our country against online threats and cybercrime'
5 Three students have completed over 50 hours of volunteering - (L-R) Julia Cumberland, Hanna Johal and Ahrus Asim



'Les Mis' sells out!

Four pupils took part in the sell-out show 'Les Misérables' by the Ilkley Amateur Operatic Society. Boubil and Schonberg's legendary musical continues to pack out theatres around the world and Ilkley's King's Hall was no exception.

The opening performance of Ilkley Amateur Operatic Society's fantastic production attracted a full house with other performances sold out well in advance.

Catriona Ford, aged 16, from Bingley, said: 'I thoroughly enjoyed performing in Les Misérables with the operatic society as it is one of my favourite musicals. It was my first time performing with the operatic society and I would definitely go back and do more shows with them. Everyone was lovely and we created a great show.'

Other BGS pupils included Evie Clark, Sam Clark and Siena Anderson, who also had a fantastic time. They were drawn entirely from the society's



richly talented youth and junior section, and displayed consummate professionalism throughout the most challenging of musicals.

Catriona continued: 'The thing I enjoyed most was that everyone in the cast was amazing, talented and equally wonderful to work with. Having a great cast that you get on with so well can make all the difference in the outcome and it was an experience where true friendships were made.'

The arts are flourishing at BGS where subjects, including Drama, Music and Art provide a superb platform for fostering creativity. Catriona reflected on her experience at Bradford Grammar School: 'The Music and English Departments at BGS are always keen for you to be involved in as many co-curricular activities as you can and they are very supportive of activities you do out of school. All creative subjects at A Level, including Art, Music, English Literature and Theatre Studies, are taught in a very supportive and creative environment, which is great for doing the things I love.'

Simon Hinchliffe, BGS Headmaster, said: 'At a time when arts teaching is coming under fire nationally, BGS continues to advance a

“...”

We are proud of the School's musical heritage ...

SIMON HINCHLIFFE
Headmaster

broad curriculum in which the arts play a full role. We are proud of the School's musical heritage, with pupils choosing music for GCSE and A Level at almost double the national average for independent schools.'

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Bradford
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School

'I am delighted by the extraordinary, creative flair shown by the students at Bradford Grammar School. My colleagues are experts at encouraging the best out of our young people.'

Simon Hinchliffe,
Headmaster

ARTS

Heritage

Arts

At BGS we recognise
the huge value of arts
and culture within
our society.

Arts provide a superb opportunity for our pupils to engage in an active learning process that fosters their inherent creativity.

CAPTIONS

- 1 Isabella Heaton, Year 13
- 2 Myrah Khan, Year 11
- 3 Tamar Howarth, Year 11
- 4 Millie Wadsworth, Year 11
- 5 Will Cooper, Year 12
- 6 Joseph Hopper, Year 11

We hope that you'll thoroughly enjoy this 'snapshot gallery' of work from the talented artists at Bradford Grammar School ...

[VIEW MORE ...](http://bradfordgrammar.com/bgsart)
bradfordgrammar.com/bgsart



Arts

Beautiful ceramic tile installation becomes public art

Kate Malone, a leading ceramic artist, and a group of Year 10 pupils created a beautiful installation, now on display at BGS.

Kate Malone, one of the UK's leading studio potter and ceramic artists, visited BGS in 2016 to speak to all pupils about the importance of creativity in school.

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.

Reflecting on her visit to BGS 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.'



Community exhibit for our Head of Art

Josie Barraclough, BGS's Head of Art, exhibited 'Neighbourhood', a selection of her most recent work throughout spring, exploring our sense of place at Sunny Bank Mills Gallery, Farsley and Batley Art Gallery.

Josie began her career as a designer and painter after leaving Batley Art College. Her main subjects in recent years have been still life and landscapes.

An active member of the Dewsbury Arts Group, Josie's work has grown out of her fascination with landscapes, natural and man-made, and many of the inspiring images draw from her extensive catalogue of travel photography. Josie produces work in oil, mixed media and collage from her studio in Liversedge.

'My work has grown out of my fascination with colour, landscapes, natural and man-made forms with much of my inspiration drawn from travel and photography. I work in oil, mixed media and collage, with regular exhibits in Yorkshire as well as teaching art to GCSE and A Level students at Bradford Grammar School.'

'We get a real sense of reward from seeing students over a period of time because you see how their art work progresses, how they have participated and how they've improved. I think participating in the arts is important. It aids in pupils' personal development and well-being because it gives them a chance to evaluate themselves, their work and to come out of their comfort zone.'

'Art also provides them with spontaneity, self-confidence and it builds up their creative skills that carry through to other subjects, both classical and academic. But it's more than that, we really get pupils to reach their full potential, whether that's through the Hockney Theatre on stage, singing in choir, or playing an instrument in the orchestra. We have a wide variety of facilities that support a fantastic well-rounded education.'

BGS Headmaster Simon Hinchliffe, commented: 'The broad BGS curriculum provides a diverse palette for fostering creativity, developing curiosity and nurturing talent in many different forms. Creativity and the

right kind of confidence will always be encouraged at BGS.

'I continue to delight at the extraordinary, creative flair shown by students at Bradford Grammar School and my colleagues are experts at encouraging the very best out of our young people. Josie's 'Neighbourhood' exhibition reflects her passion for Yorkshire, but also our school.'

Josie continued: 'We want to share our love of the arts as far and wide as we can. At a time when arts teaching is coming under fire nationally, we recognise how lucky we are to be in a position where Art at Bradford Grammar School is thriving and growing year-on-year and we want to share this with the wider public.'

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Students learn from literary expert

Dr Daniel Cordle from Nottingham Trent University ran an interesting and very useful workshop for A Level English Literature students.

The workshop covered 'The Grapes of Wrath' and its literary and historical context, particularly the Dust Bowl in the American Middle West, which he illustrated with Dorothea Lange's emotive photographs from the period and

the evocative 1936 Pare Lorenz film, 'The Plow that Broke the Plains'.

Dr Cordle's presentation was adapted especially for BGS Sixth Formers from his pre-show talk for Nottingham Playhouse's recent production of the novel. As well as listening to the presentation, students, working with their peers from three A Level groups, were invited to analyse some sections of Steinbeck's text and link them to their knowledge of the period and the cinematic images they had seen.

Given the current emphasis on understanding texts in their socio-historical context, the workshop was very worthwhile as well as enjoyable.



CAPTIONS

- 1 Four pupils took part in the sell-out show 'Les Misérables' by the Ilkley Amateur Operatic Society
- 2 'My work has grown out of my fascination with colour, landscapes, natural and man-made forms with much of my inspiration drawn from travel and photography'
- 3 Dr Daniel Cordle running a very interesting and useful workshop for our A Level English Literature students

Student review:
(Open Science
Lecture Series)

Life in the freezer

We think that one of the great things about the Open Science Lecture Series, held at BGS, is that some of the lectures explore areas that are completely beyond the syllabus; this particular lecture was a great example of this.

Before the lecture, we were unaware of the unique icefish, which are the only known vertebrate that do not have respiratory pigments, producing ghostly white blood, as well as having massive hearts and extra wide blood vessels. To learn how

Professor Egginton explained the scientific concepts very well, showing his understanding of this subject. In addition, the lecture was enhanced by Professor Egginton's experience as a researcher, who annually travels to Antarctica to continue his research. Overall, we took away lots of new and interesting knowledge from the lecture, as well as some insight on what it is like to be a scientific researcher in Antarctica, which was quite intriguing.

Oliver Theaker, Physics Teacher said: 'These free lectures have proven very popular so far. Whether you have links to the School or this is the first time you have heard about us, please look out for our upcoming events and we look forward to seeing you there!'



CAPTIONS

1 Some BGS lectures explore areas that are completely beyond the syllabus;

this particular lecture was a great example of this

2 It was great to welcome Tejvan Pettinger (OB) back to BGS for an insightful talk on the politics and economics of austerity

3 Straight-talking New Yorkers Allison Havey and Deana Puccio, Founders of the RAP Project with BGS pupils after their fascinating session

“...”

The free lectures have proven very popular.

OLIVER THEAKER
Physics Teacher

these species have adapted to the extreme environment of the Antarctic was very interesting. Furthermore, we liked the aspect of Professor Egginton's lecture, when he discussed how the changing climate due to global warming could affect the lives of icefish, who have spent a thousand years trying to adapt to such harsh, cold environments.

Tackling social media concerns

BGS is tackling social media concerns head on amid growing fears about the way children use social media and its effects on their well-being.

The Children's Commissioner's recent report 'Life in Likes' revealed that many children are finding social media hard to manage and becoming over-dependent on 'likes' and 'comments' for social validation. BGS has been instrumental in providing public talks, focusing on important issues for pupils, parents and staff. The latest in this influential series was delivered by straight-talking New Yorkers, Allison Havey and Deana Puccio, founders of the RAP Project.

Their aim was to raise awareness and prevention of the negative effects of social media, while openly discussing how social media influences attitudes and expectations, from personal safety to sexual assault.

Pupil Lottie Kingsley, Year 10, from Bingley, thought the session was 'fantastic': 'It was really good, and they involved all the pupils really well. It was quite surprising just how real some of these stories are and it really brought it home to me.' Another pupil, Kate Mighell, 14, from Farsley, could not agree more: 'You don't realise how serious situations can get but it's great to have that straight forward advice and support on how to handle yourself and support others with anything concerning online. Allison and Deana were so engaging – I was quite captivated by them,' she said.

Deana said: 'All these children are dealing with the same issues no matter where they live and what school they go to. Yet, because of social media and 24/7 access, they're all exposed to the same challenges – this is true of Bradford as it is anywhere else.' Allison agreed: 'The main problem is that teenagers inhabit a world that we don't know much about, so we feel we have little to offer and our generation is always playing catch-up. I think it's fabulous that BGS is one step ahead of the game, bridging the gap for parents, pupils and staff alike, and leading the way in developing an appropriate response to the growing epidemic of social media uncertainties among young people and adults throughout the country.'

Deana was particularly impressed by our pupils 'They were absolutely lovely, attentive, engaged and very bright. I certainly felt like they took away a lot from the session. It's a real pleasure to know you're helping them with



their choices going forwards when it comes to keeping safe,' she added.

Jane Chapman, Assistant Head Pastoral said: 'We are acutely aware that members of the public, young people, parents and teachers all need reassurance and confidence to do more to prepare children for the emotional impact of social media as they get older. At BGS we have always placed a premium on our pastoral care, fostering a broad range of interests outside the classroom to nurture resilient and characterful young people that are able to navigate complex modern life and make the most of opportunities.'

The strategies and advice Allison and Deana offered about how to deal with online safety and prevention and get further advice were instrumental in raising awareness to pupils, staff and parents alike.

“...”

The main problem is that teenagers inhabit a world that we don't know much about, so we feel we have little to offer and our generation is always playing catch-up ...

ALLISON HAVEY
Co-founder, RAP Project

Jane continued: 'We were delighted to welcome Allison and Deana to BGS and their visit was a great success. They were both very fascinating speakers and we hope they will come back to BGS in the near future. We want to play our part through these public speakers to benefit everyone, not just the few, and to help tackle these concerns



British cyclist returns to BGS

Tejvan Pettinger is a British cyclist known for his successes in UK hill-climbs and time trials.

It was great to welcome Tejvan Pettinger (OB) back to BGS for an insightful talk on the politics and economics of austerity. Students were able to acquire both a historical and ideological perspective surrounding contemporary policy issues in the UK.

Tejvan was able to take time out from running his successful and heavily used website, Economics Help, and cycle training (Tejvan was British National Hill Climb champion in 2013) to visit BGS for the first time in 25 years.

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Enrichment sessions

We were delighted to welcome representatives from the Samaritans to inform students of the range of emotional support services in the digital age. From support at music festivals, to text and online channels, their commitment to providing a relevant and accessible service was clear.

A visit by the talented deaf musician and campaigner, Danny Lane, demonstrated how deaf people can create and experience music, as well as improving our students' deaf awareness. The RAP Project session focused on issues around consent, peer pressure and helping our young people negotiate risky social situations.

Year 12 has experienced a range of guidance sessions, while for Year 13 the focus has been on making a happy, healthy and safe transition into life at university and beyond.

Volunteering with Age UK

This rewarding volunteering scheme enables students to learn valuable skills. Through conversing with elderly visitors, who share their incomparable experience, the students gain insight into what life was like in Bradford 50 years ago.

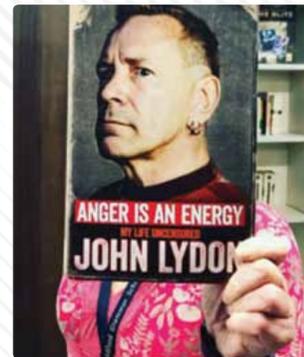
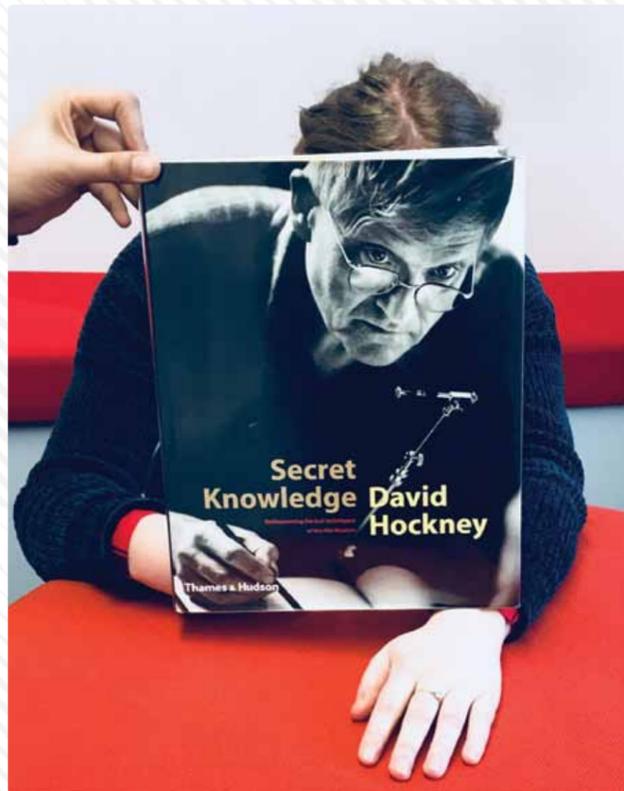
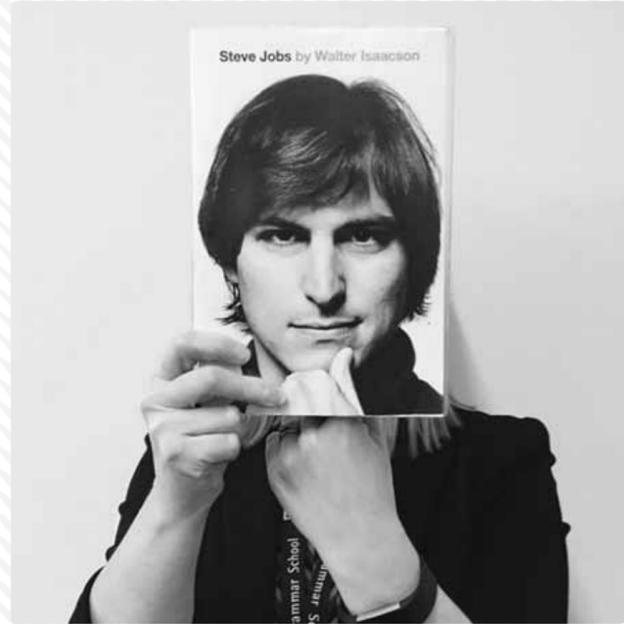
The visitors all lead such diverse lives; some were pharmacists, teachers and police officers. Each session opens with an engaging quiz, which helps the students and visitors bond. We take part in activities that coincide with the theme of the week, for example, how technology affects our lives while helping the visitors use iPads. Another session looked at visitors' experiences of war, which was very educational and emotional.

Each session shows the fascinating contrast between the visitors in their youth and how we live in the 21st Century.

World Book Day

BGS joined a growing international movement to celebrate World Book Day by posting their #BookFace pictures online.

[VIEW MORE ...](#)
@bgs_library



“...”

Hearing loss shouldn't be a barrier to enjoying and making music.

DANNY LANE
CEO, Music and the Deaf

Music masterclass – a unique enrichment session

The CEO of a passionate Yorkshire-based organisation, 'Music and the Deaf' visited BGS to give Sixth Form students a unique enrichment session, with the aim of inspiring and educating them on the importance and impact of music and how deaf people can access, play and enjoy music.

According to Danny Lane, the Chief Executive Officer of 'Music and the Deaf' there is still a misconception that people with hearing loss can't be musical. Music and the Deaf is the only UK charity entirely dedicated to providing access, education and opportunities in music for deaf children, young people and adults.

During the session, students learnt all about Danny's experience of deafness and the challenges that many deaf people face. He covered many topics, including deaf awareness, how deaf people can engage with music, and how barriers to deaf people accessing music can be overcome, as well as teaching the students how to use sign language to communicate their names and where they live.

Student Sophie Yung, age 18, from Halifax said: 'It was such an interesting session. I really admire Danny and he's living proof that it's more than possible for someone with profound hearing loss to become an accomplished musician and derive huge pleasure from listening to music.'

Danny explained: 'Hearing loss shouldn't be a barrier to enjoying and making music. It is proven that participation in music can play a crucial role in a person's development: it promotes inclusivity, teaches young people how to work together, builds confidence, develops communications skills, and provides a vital outlet for self-expression.'



Angela McOwen, BGS Head of Sixth Form Enrichment, said: 'We were delighted to welcome Danny to BGS, and his visit has been a great success. He is a compelling speaker with a wealth of experience and wisdom drawn from his professional and personal life. We are so lucky that such a high profile charity has stopped off at BGS and made a real impact on our students.'

Danny continued: 'I thoroughly enjoyed my visit to BGS and was very impressed by the School's determination to develop an awareness and support for hearing impaired musicians to achieve high musical standards. I was especially impressed by the Sixth Formers, who were both focused and mature, but above all articulate and emotionally honest in their questions and answers.'

'The students really understood the message that there needs to be a lot more awareness of what deaf people can achieve and the expectations that deaf people can access, play and enjoy music. Danny made this really clear in his session, that it's imperative to break down the barriers that prevent young people from having music in their lives.'

[READ MORE ...](#)
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CAPTIONS

1. Through conversing with elderly visitors, who share their incomparable experience, the students gain insight into what life was like in Bradford 50 years ago.

2. The students really understood the message that there needs to be a lot more awareness of what deaf people can achieve and the expectations that deaf people can access, play and enjoy music'



Making history

During February half term, 40 Sixth Form historians and religious studies students had a very thought-provoking trip to snowy Krakow.

The trip was designed to help students learn more about the Holocaust and the impact of genocide on Jewish communities, particularly in Krakow itself.

The focus of the visit was a full study day at the former Nazi camps at Auschwitz, Birkenau. Plenty of contemplation time was built in for what most of us found to be quite an overwhelming experience. There was also the opportunity to get a wider perspective on Polish history and culture with a walking tour of the sights of the beautiful city of Krakow, visits to a couple of art galleries including a viewing of Leonardo da Vinci's 'Lady with Ermine', a visit down the UNESCO world heritage site of the Weiliczka Salt Mine, great Polish food and fantastic hot chocolate.

Our expert guide, Imran Mansoor from Holocaust Study Tours, was incredibly complimentary about our students, 'This was by far the best group I've ever worked with because of the intellectual capacity and good manners of the students,' he said.

“...”

This was by far the best group I've ever worked with ...

IMRAN MANSOOR
Holocaust Study Tours

French study day

Fourteen of our A Level French students braved the Pennine snowstorms to attend a French film course on 'La Haine', at Manchester Metropolitan University.

The course was well presented, mostly in French, providing valuable listening and essay-writing practice for our Year 12 and 13 linguists, as well as some thought-provoking perspectives on this hard-hitting film, shot in black and white in 90s Paris (still painfully relevant today). It was interesting to hear students' ideas on why a cow wanders across the screen and what message the director Kassowitz was trying to communicate.



Boys' hockey

January 2018 saw boys' hockey introduced to the BGS curriculum.

Unsure of how popular it would be, a handful of fixtures was organised to give the students further experience in a competitive environment. The boys in Year 7 and 8 thoroughly enjoyed developing new skills with different pressures. Despite the limited fixtures, approximately 30 boys in each year represented the School and showed spirit to take on more experienced players.

The U13s made it through to further rounds of the 'In2 Hockey competitions' while also managing a cup run that currently sees them in the last eight in the country. The older age groups have had opportunities during lessons and should look forward to a comprehensive fixture list next year. With the new facilities looming, boys' hockey has a bright future at the school in order to give the boys good competition while also allowing all to represent BGS in fixtures.

Creative translation workshop

La Haine in Wigan? La Casa de Bernada Alba in 1930s southern Spain?

Anything was possible when Sixth Form modern linguists took part in a 'Creative Translation' workshop, arranged with the West Yorkshire Playhouse and former colleague Miss Lancelot, to improve their translation skills in preparation for their A Level examinations.

The Sixth Form had lots of opportunities to practise and develop their skills. It began with translation terminology and the 'translation machine' (the processes professional translators go through), and led on to translation of everyday items such as road signs and progressed onto a literal and free translation of extracts from the A Level set texts.

The highlight of the afternoon however had to be the final performance of the free translations the group had produced, which took into account the audience and the setting, just like in real life. Everyone had a great afternoon and we look forward to running this workshop again in future years.



CAPTIONS

1 'This was by far the best group I've ever worked with ...'

2 40 Sixth Form historians and religious studies students on their trip to snowy Krakow

3 Students learnt more about the Holocaust and the Jewish genocide

4 14 A Level French students attended a French film course at Manchester Metropolitan University

5 Sixth Form Modern Linguists taking part in a 'Creative Translation' workshop

6 Boys' hockey has a bright future at the School