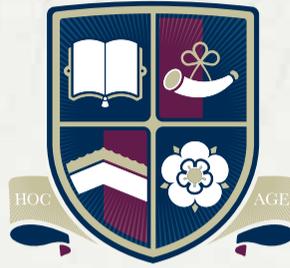


THE SUNDAY TIMES
Northern
Independent School
of the Year
2018



Bradford
Grammar
School

AUTUMN
2017

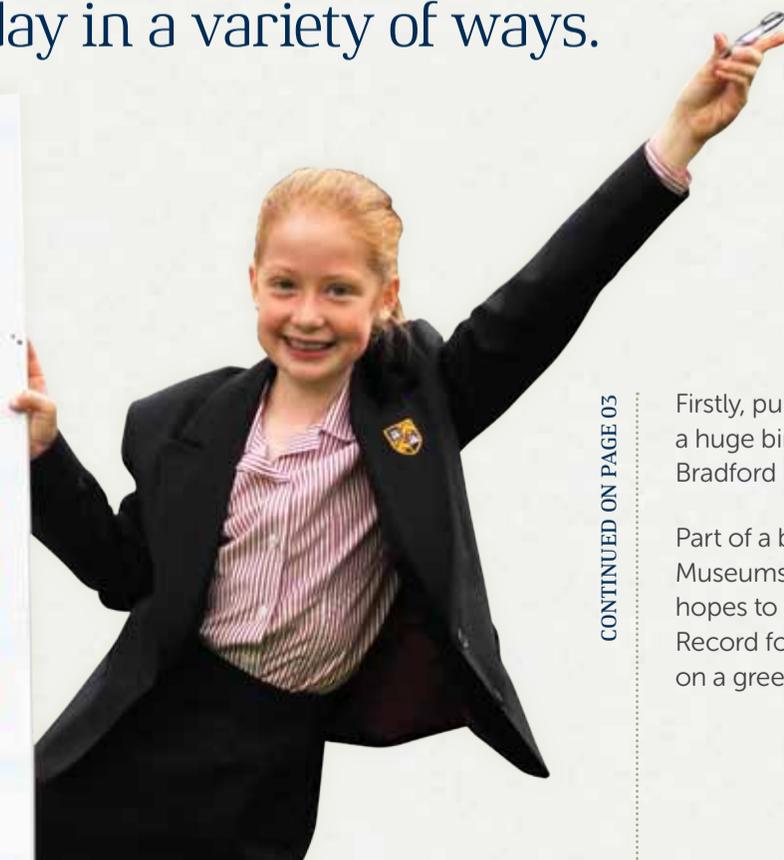
CHALLENGE 03-05
THE ARTS 06-07
LIFE 08

Hock Age

Feature

BGS celebrates Hockney birthday in style

We wished the 80-year-old Old Bradfordian
a very happy birthday in a variety of ways.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 03

Firstly, pupils and staff queued up to sign a huge birthday card for the 80-year-old Bradford born artist.

Part of a bid by Bradford Council's Museums and Galleries Service, the card hopes to break the Guinness World Record for the number of signatures on a greetings card.



Welcome from the Headmaster

Term started in typically buoyant mood as we celebrated record-breaking exam results and the passage of our upper sixth students to university and apprenticeships.



New faces to BGS, including colleagues, have settled in nicely. The fantastic Year 7 residential trip has really brought this group of pupils together. It was also a joy to watch them, a week or two later, showing prospective families around BGS at our Open Day with such enthusiasm and pride. I am deeply grateful to everyone, pupils and parents, of both the Junior and Senior Schools who helped to welcome our guests to this event; it is greatly appreciated. I was a fan of the singing in Clock House but perhaps had one too many cakes before the day was over.

The sporting life of BGS is in full swing and we are both winning in style and losing with grace, a measure of the character of BGS pupils. Similarly, the choral music performed at our annual Founders' Day Service was wonderful and we look forward to festive concerts and the Nine Lessons and Carols Service at Bradford Cathedral, all of which are fast approaching. The co-curricular scene continues to flourish and I have been deeply impressed by what I've seen at the likes of the Politics, Classics and Philosophical Societies, the Combined Cadet Force (CCF) and Science and Coding Clubs to name but a few.

Additionally, at lunchtime we continue to commemorate former pupils who died in conflict as part of the ongoing Great War remembrance project. It is lovely to note that our pupils now join with teachers, Old Bradfordians and dignitaries for these commemorations. At BGS, we have our eyes on the future, but never fail to remember our roots, heritage and those who have gone before us.

I hope you enjoy reading all that follows.

Simon Hinchliffe

LATEST BLOG ... bradfordgrammar.com/simonsblog



JAN

10 January
Open Morning
(Junior, Senior and Sixth Form)

18 January
Parents evening
(Year 8)

30 January
Parents evening
(Year 7)

FEB

8 February
Parent Information Session

MAR

1 March
World Book Day

15 to 17 March
Whole School Production

20 March
Parent Information Session

21 March
Hockey Fun Afternoon

Keep yourself up-to-date!

LATEST STORIES ... bradfordgrammar.com/news

LATEST EVENTS ... bradfordgrammar.com/events

IN THE PRESS ... bradfordgrammar.com/press



“...”

We are really pleased pupils from David Hockney's former school got the chance to take part in this official Guinness World Record attempt.

SARAH FERRIBY

Bradford Council's Executive Member for Environment, Sport and Culture

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 01

The giant card, which is around 180cm tall and 120cm wide, has been designed by Hallmark using inspiration from Hockney's famous artworks to create the number 80 as a collage.

Sarah Ferriby, Bradford Council's Executive Member for Environment, Sport and Culture, said: 'We are really pleased that pupils from David Hockney's former school got the chance to take part in this official Guinness World Record attempt. We want many people from across the district to sign the card and can arrange for groups of people to visit or we can take the card out to groups, work places, sports teams, art clubs or communities for people to sign.'

The School also marked Hockney's birthday by working in collaboration with Bradford Museums and Galleries, hosting the official opening of a permanent gallery dedicated to Hockney in Cartwright Hall. The gallery includes interviews with Hockney by the film-maker Bruno Wollheim.

Simon Hinchliffe, Headmaster at BGS, said: 'The School is delighted to be able to support the world record attempt and official opening of the gallery by our city's excellent Museums and Galleries Service. BGS pupils and staff had a lot of fun adding their names to the birthday card and many of us have visited the superb Hockney exhibition in nearby Lister Park.'



Outstanding A Level success

127 A Level students celebrated success with 21 percent of all exams awarded A* and 56 percent A*/A grades, both up on last year.

Headmaster, Simon Hinchliffe, commented: 'I am delighted to congratulate our students on some outstanding results this year; with a 100 percent pass rate, our results remain exceptionally strong. This is great news for BGS and the wider educational scene in Bradford.'

The shared endeavour of students, working with the support of their families and staff, has sustained our first class record in A Level exams, enabling the vast majority of our Year 13 leavers to achieve a place at their first choice university.'

The majority of students are taking up places at Russell Group Universities with many students scoring impressive straight A*s.

Simon Hinchliffe continued: 'Beyond the headlines, we are keenly aware of the many individual successes that represent a triumph for those students who realised or exceeded expectations at all levels

of achievement. Whilst we are rightly proud of the overall balance of the results gained, it is the many personal stories of accomplishment and success that will stick long in the memory. Not everyone achieves the highest grades, but a life-changing education is open to all at BGS and value is added across the board in many ways.

The message is clear, honest effort and a positive mind-set – encapsulated in our age old School credo of 'Hoc Age', roughly translated as 'get on and do it' – pay dividends and speak volumes about the unfussy and high achieving character of Bradford Grammar School. Well done, all.'

HEAR FROM STUDENTS ... bit.ly/2v7qVh6



VIEW THE GALLERY ... bit.ly/2fQBeE2



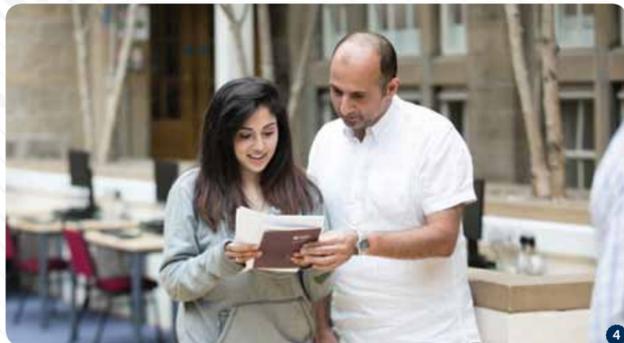
CAPTIONS

1 'The School is delighted to support the world record attempt ...'

2 Pupils and staff had a lot of fun adding their names to the birthday card

3 'Honest effort and a positive mindset pay dividends ...'

4 21 percent of all A Level exams were awarded A*



Reach for the sky

Combined Cadet Force (CCF) pupils took to the sky once more with the aid of the Royal Air Force.

A call went out for volunteers from the cadet units to take part in a disaster relief recovery exercise at RAF Topcliffe, with a flight in a Chinook helicopter as part of the scenario.

Sixty places were allocated to the CCF nationally and BGS were lucky enough to get six of them, gladly answering the call along with 1,000 cadets in total. These exercises are real live time scenarios, and provide an excellent training ground for real event situations. Who knows ... next year it could be you?

Best ever A* GCSE pass rate

Thirty-eight talented students each achieved all A* and A graded GCSEs, as the school celebrated another rise in top grades.

A record-breaking 47 percent of all GCSEs were awarded A*, an increase on last year's record A*s.

73 percent of all exams taken were awarded A* or A grades, well over three times higher than the national average. GCSEs and IGCSEs taken at BGS are still graded A*-U. The A*A cumulative pass rate of 73 percent is the second highest ever and A*ABC is 98 percent.

Headmaster Simon Hinchliffe said: 'Warmest congratulations to our GCSE students who have achieved a terrific set of exam results. Academic success at BGS reflects the positive way in which our students go about their studies, enjoying school, aspiring to laudable ambitions and ultimately doing themselves proud.'

“...”

Success of this kind is not accidental and children do not progress equally well irrespective of the School they attend.

SIMON HINCHLIFFE, BGS HEADMASTER

BGS Debating success

The competition was long and gruelling for BGS Debating pupils and their dedicated coach.

But Christian Burke and Edmund Milwain eventually emerged triumphant after five debates on such diverse subjects as female only e-sport tournaments, and compulsory political knowledge testing for citizens before gaining the right to vote. The final motion, scrapping Truth and Reconciliation Commissions and replacing them with criminal trials, was a forceful, carefully argued and well-constructed debate.

We are delighted for our outgoing Year 11 students and greatly look forward to welcoming them back, alongside new students to BGS, as young women and men into our highly successful Sixth Form.'

HEAR FROM STUDENTS ... bit.ly/2iWtYaK



VIEW THE GALLERY ... bit.ly/2xvYHhQ



COMMUNITY

NEWS 02-03

MEET OUR COUNSELLOR 04

MAKE A DIFFERENCE 04



Bradford Grammar School

Hac Age

Enriching lives

At Bradford Grammar School we promote an understanding that by giving to others, we ultimately enrich our own lives.

This philosophy is integral to the happiness and prosperity of our School. We actively encourage pupils to see themselves as part of the wider Yorkshire community.

We're proud to work in partnership with other local schools, speakers, charities and associated organisations.

These partnerships allow us to identify how we can help with particular challenges or issues within our community in a mutually beneficial way.

VIEW OUR FULL LIST OF PARTNERSHIPS ... bradfordgrammar.com/community



CAPTIONS

- 1 The successful BGS Debaters
- 2 CCF pupils taking to the sky!
- 3 BGS volunteers took part in a recovery exercise with a flight in the helicopter
- 4 Thirty-eight talented pupils achieved all A*s at GCSE
- 5 Yorkshire Carnegie talent - George Worthington

We are extremely grateful to our associated charities and organisations for supporting our School.

Enriching lives

The Sixth Form Leadership Team have been delighted to host a variety of speakers in Enrichment and Personal Development this term.

Amongst them, Gemma Fieldsend from the Charlie Waller Memorial Trust reminded us of the centrality of good mental health to overall well-being, whilst West Yorkshire Fire Service's session on safe driving equipped us all to be more mindful road-users.

As long-term supporters of the organisation, we have welcomed back the Anthony Nolan Trust to roll out their Hero Project initiative, with BGS students having been a fruitful source of matching donors for bone marrow in recent years. We are very grateful to Ian Smith from the Finance Department for sharing his insights and passion for the cultural phenomenon that is Northern Soul, which is a new and engaging addition to our Enrichment provision here at BGS.

Volunteering Fair

On Friday 15 September, the whole of the Sixth Form attended a Volunteering Fair. Dave Forrest from Volunteering Bradford explained the benefits of volunteering and Andrew Crabtree challenged each of the students to volunteer for 20 hours this year, with the Sixth Form collectively challenged to give 5,000 hours.

The students were able to hear from several volunteering organisations across Bradford who are working with the School to provide volunteering opportunities for our students. The students also registered with 'V.inspired' a volunteering platform which helps students to log hours and sign up for opportunities, and rewards students with certificates as they complete 10, 30, 50 and 100 hours of volunteering.

Barnardos

On 20 September, the Year 13 Barnardos mentors successfully completed their safeguarding and child protection training in the Pavilion.

The day focused on how to ensure that the mentors are able to pass on any concerns they have, and learnt what it is like to be a Young Carer.

The mentoring sessions started the first Thursday back after half term. The Year 13s are getting to know the younger pupils and helping them with schoolwork. They willingly give up their time and it is appreciated. One of last year's mentors said, 'It's really helped my communications skills, which I need as I want to study Medicine. I didn't realise I'd enjoy it as much as I did - by the end I wasn't just a mentor but a friend.'



Be V.inspired

230 Sixth Form students registered with V.inspired this term. V.inspired is the UK's leading volunteering charity for 14-25 year olds. It helps young people to make their mark on causes that they care about, whilst learning new skills along the way.

It recognises that volunteering can help young people thrive, and transform the communities they live in. It teaches them vital skills, like teamwork and problem solving, and prepares them for their future.

We know that 74 percent of young people are ready to volunteer, which will have a massive impact on communities across the UK.

BGS are working with several organisations to provide volunteering opportunities for our students. Age UK, Bevan House Well Being Centre, Heaton 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 difference in the community.

Bradford Cathedral service

On Founders' Day, the Lord Mayor joined BGS pupils, staff and former pupils to remember the founders, benefactors and supporters of the School.

Headmaster Simon Hinchliffe said: 'It is important to us that we remember and celebrate our heritage in Bradford and it 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.

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 overstated.'

European Week of Languages

Years 7 to 9 spent one lesson completing a European-themed quiz and two of our Year 8 pupils, Joseph Marchewka and Ben Jackson, were runners-up in the national competition they entered.

Laura Kraft, Year 7, was the winner of the annual language assistant quiz, with an impressive 39 out of 40, demonstrating her knowledge of France, Germany, Russia and Spain.

Pupils had the opportunity to celebrate Oktoberfest and be entertained at a Russian Kvas bar. The lucky winners of a golden ticket had the chance to attend our European Market, along with Clock House pupils, three of whom took home a Spanish teddy bear that they had correctly named, or a hamper containing 100 sweets, which they had correctly guessed in German.

Next year's event will be even bigger and better!



Video case studies

Watch short videos from our pupils about their volunteer work in the community ...

WATCH THE VIDEOS ... bradfordgrammar.com/community



CAPTIONS

1 'It is important to us that we remember and celebrate our heritage in Bradford ...'

2 Pupils with their V.inspired awards - well done to all!

3 The European Week of Languages was another fabulous set of events at BGS

4 Conkering Yorkshire: Harry Lockett and Ben Sheard make the most of autumn in the beautiful BGS grounds





From our Counsellor ...

My name is Jo Rutter and I am thrilled to be the School's first full-time School Counsellor.

CAPTIONS
1 Jo Rutter,
BGS School
Counsellor

It is an exciting time for me, a challenge that I feel privileged to be given and a responsibility I will not take lightly.

I am very impressed at the quality of pastoral care at BGS and so happy to join the team. I feel my appointment shows the importance BGS places on the emotional well-being of pupils and staff and that it recognises the link between happiness and academic success. It is clear to me that BGS wants pupils to leave as well-rounded and resilient individuals.

I hope to play my part in this by reducing the stigma which still surrounds mental health issues, and by conveying the message to parents, staff and pupils that 'it's good to talk!' My first half term has been a busy one as I'm gradually learning how the School operates. I'm sure that I will soon settle in and become an established cog in the wheel.

I have worked part-time as a Counsellor at Calderdale Women Centre, alongside my work for the Probation Service, as a Victim Liaison Officer supporting victims of serious crime. As a mum of two teenagers, I have valuable personal insight into how young people develop and grow as individuals.

My role at BGS will include running the Sixth Form Mentor Scheme, and I am looking forward to training them in the skills of listening and sign posting, conflict resolution

and knowing when to share safeguarding concerns. They will help pupils with friendship problems who may have had a fall out or disagreement and will learn how to bring the pupils together to have a 'restorative chat' to enable them to resolve their differences. Part of their role will involve a pupil drop-in service at lunchtimes and pairing with younger pupils who need a role model/supporter in school.

I shall also support the Personal Development Programme and well-being initiatives in school and I look forward to attending a Parents Association Session in the summer term to talk more about my role and to answer any questions parents may have.

I am always willing to discuss any issues or problems with pupils, parents or staff, and to explore ways in which I may be of assistance. Thank you all for welcoming me to BGS and I look forward to meeting and/or working with you all.

FOR MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES AND SUPPORTING MATERIALS VISIT ...

bradfordgrammar.com/pastoral



V•INSPIRED

Whatever you're into, wherever you are, however much time you can commit – volunteering with V.inspired can change your world.

The V.inspired Awards recognise your volunteering endeavours. The v10, v30, v50 or v100 award will be an inspiring addition to your CV.

The V.inspired Task Squad are also on hand to provide employability advice and support to young people with volunteering experience.

READ MORE AND SIGN UP ...
vinspired.com/schools/bradford-grammar



Make a difference Make your mark



George Worthington has been attending the England Rugby Developing Player Programme (ERDP) Under 14 rugby trials, for Yorkshire Carnegie, and has been training with them since September.

Pupil earns place with Yorkshire Carnegie

George said: 'Well I've just played with West Yorkshire Carnegie for rugby union, I played for Old Brods, and they put me forward to Yorkshire Carnegie. We've done three trials now, and I've passed all three of them. I'm really excited and I wish I could start to train with them sooner. I'm really happy that I got in!'

'I like the contact, the physical side of rugby and the fitness behind it; it's not all about the tries and things. It really excites me. My team and the BGS staff are really good company and it's fun when we go on tours and play games and have banter with friends.'

George has had fabulous support from his Rugby Coach, Head of Rugby, John Oakes: 'It's extremely pleasing to see George progress on to the Yorkshire Carnegie development pathway. Especially when you consider he was relatively new to rugby union when joining the School in Year 7.'

'Giving our pupils every opportunity to be able to go out and represent the School, and enjoy themselves while they're doing it is the name of the game. All research suggests that as part of a well-rounded education, sport has a major part to play, particularly in support of their academic work – getting out of the classroom, burning off some energy and helping to boost mental well-being.'

BGS Headmaster, Simon Hinchliffe, says: 'George is a fantastic lad. Everyone at BGS is delighted for him and we look forward to watching his rugby career prosper. At BGS, we believe in offering a wide range of opportunities both inside and outside the classroom for personal development and growth. George models these values with his 'get up and give it a go' spirit encapsulated in our age-old school motto 'Hoc Age'. Well, done, George!'

“...”

I'm really excited and I wish I could start to train with them sooner.

GEORGE WORTHINGTON, BGS PUPIL



1

Theatre visits

This term our Drama and Theatre Studies Students have seen three plays in Leeds and Manchester.

The first was a modern reworking of Ibsen's classic, 'The Master Builder'. Known now as (the fall of) The Master Builder, the students were shocked by the powerful ending and the way the play dealt with the difficult subject matter that Ibsen only alluded to in his original.

Next came the uproarious and chaotic production of 'The Tin Drum', performed by eminent theatre company Kneehigh. The complex performance and myriad of design elements made it a great performance to consider for the GCSE and A Level exams.

Finally, the students moved a little further afield with a trip to the Lowry Theatre in Manchester to see the touring production of 'Hedda Gabler'. As this is the set text for the A Level students, it was a fantastic chance to see the play leap from the page to the stage. Although the production gathered mixed reviews from the students, it certainly provided good material for analysis in lessons.

A quartet of distinction

Four pupils had remarkable success in music exams. Ruby Hendry, Leon Dammonne, Laura Barnett and John Scholey all achieved distinctions in the Associate of the Royal Schools of Music (ARSM) exam.

This qualification is a chance to display performance skills after Grade 8. ARSM is unique in focusing solely on practical performing skills



2

and is about the art and craft of musical communication through a half-hour programme which pupils put together according to their individual musical strengths and enthusiasms.

John is hoping to go onto King's College, Cambridge for a Choral Scholarship. He says: 'I've played classical guitar since I was three and I've been singing since I was seven. I also play the bass guitar and piano and feel really supported with all of this at School.'

Ruby is now studying at the Royal Northern College of Music and was recently awarded a distinction at the Operatic Solo Class at the 110th Wharfedale Festival of Performing Arts, where she also received the Geldard Trophy. She performs locally with Steeton Male Voice Choir, Shipley Male Voice Choir and the Fairfax Singers in venues such as Bolton Abbey Priory.

About the exam, Ruby said: 'The exam was definitely a challenge; it really stretches your skills beyond that of a graded music exam as you're judged not only on your technical and musical assurance but also your performance as a whole and the way you engaged with your pieces. It was a great experience and it's amazing to be

“...”
Music means so much to me ...

JOHN SCHOLEY,
BGS STUDENT

starting the early stages of my career and the beginning of my professional training with a qualification such as this already under my belt.'

BGS Director of Music, Liz White said, 'To have one pupil pass their ARSM is an achievement, let alone four, and for all of them to be awarded a distinction is stunning.'

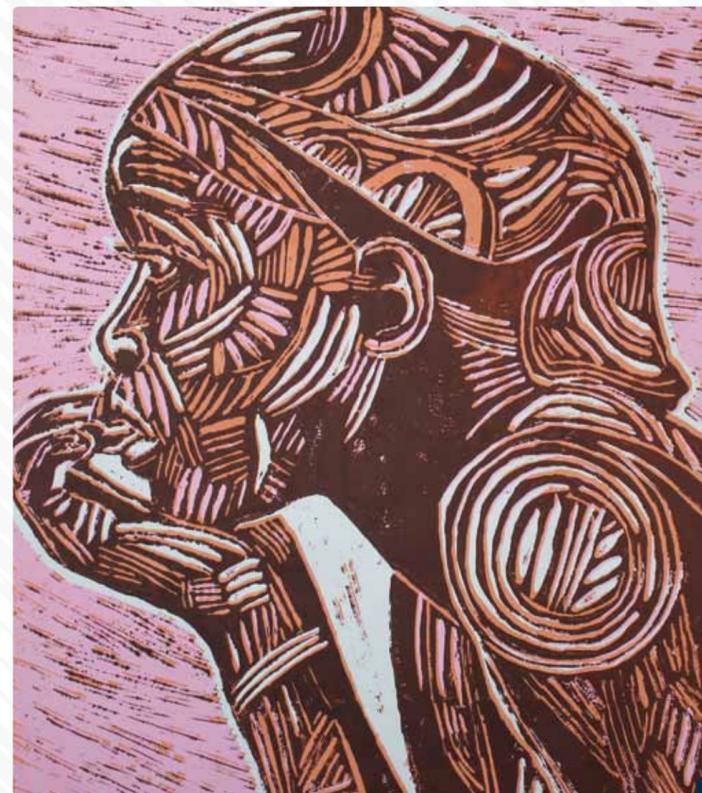
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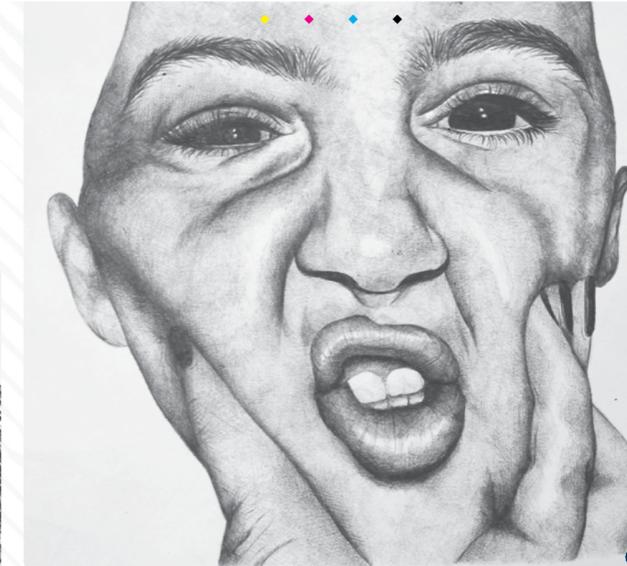
1

Talent snapshot

Arts subjects may be under threat nationally but they are thriving at BGS. We're proud to present this snapshot of incredible artwork created by our pupils.



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6



5

The Bingley Christmas Exhibition

The Liversedge based artist, Josie Barraclough is showing a selection of her most recent work at Bingley Gallery.

This follows a theme of ongoing exhibitions, including the artworks displayed in Sunny Bank Mills and Aldos restaurant in Cleckheaton. Josie's paintings are inspired by experiences whilst travelling and naturalistic elements. Her work has developed in an expressive style in a variety of media – predominantly oil on canvas, powerful both in subject matter and colour. Her latest work reflects familiar natural themes, recognisable form, colour and texture.

There are also highlights of cultural influences inspired by her travel throughout Europe and residence and journey throughout Australia. The preview evening was a great success and extremely well attended, some of the visitors included parents and students of BGS both past and present. Katy Ball who is an ex-student of Josie Barraclough said 'What an inspiration Miss Barraclough is to all her students. Her work is so vibrant and colourful, my family and I consider it an honour to have been invited to the preview'.

The selection at Bingley Gallery is from a concentration of new paintings completed throughout this last spring and summer. Working to private commissions and gallery presentations in the UK and overseas, Josie Barraclough combines her work in the studio with art education as Head of Department, teaching art through to A Level here at Bradford Grammar School, itself famous for its close relationship with David Hockney.

The art department and their students also play a significant part in fundraising, recently having exhibited their work in the biennial exhibition at the Sunny Bank Mills Galley in Farsley, raising close to £900 for St. Gemma's Hospice.

CAPTIONS

- 1 Eise Beevers, Year 8
- 2 Ava Hepworth-Wood, Year 12
- 3 Charity Clifford, Year 7
- 4 Sophia Daad, Year 11
- 5 Francesca Grace, Year 11
- 6 Tehya O'Connor, Year 8
- 7 Elisha Baranian, Year 13

CAPTIONS

1 Drama and Theatre pupils enjoy three stunning plays in Leeds and Manchester

2 To have one pupil pass their ARSM is an achievement and for all of them to be awarded a distinction is stunning ...

“...”

This has been our favourite open science lecture this year.

**DANYAL AKHTAR & HENRY TAGGART,
BGS PUPILS**

The Birth and Death of a Solar System

As part of an ongoing series of free science lectures that aim to inspire children of all ages, and fascinate children and grown-ups alike with the wonderful and weird world of science, BGS hosted 'The Birth and Death of a Solar System', by Professor John Richer, Cavendish Laboratory, University of Cambridge.

Through the observation of dust and gas as it combines to form new stars and planets in our galaxy, Prof. Richer explained how our own Solar System formed and how, in the distant future, it will end. He describes himself as an astronomer by accident and now leads the UK involvement at the ALMA Observatory, Chile.

Pupils Danyal Akhtar and Henry Taggart said: 'This has been our favourite open science lecture this year. How the universe and particularly stars were formed was always something we had wanted to look into. This lecture has taught us a lot and its fascination has sparked an interest in astrophysics.'

I thought the speaker was definitely an expert in his field and he managed to deliver such advanced physics in a way that made it seem simple. That is not to say that what he was talking about is common knowledge; in fact, I found out some very new and awe inspiring things as well, such as how planets form from nebulae.

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!'



1



2

Spanish culture in Barcelona

Year 9 pupils, accompanied by Ms Cuesta, Ms Martí and Mr Woods visited Barcelona.

We visited the Park Güell, a public park system composed of gardens and architectonic elements located on Carmel Hill. A short walk took us to the highest part of the park, from where we could admire the best views of the city. Our evening walks took us to the Plaza de España and the Gothic neighbourhood, where we soaked up the ambiance of the city at night. Overall, this was a fantastic cultural experience for all involved.

New drone video of our School

View our spectacular school through this new drone footage that shows BGS's fantastic grounds, facilities and atmosphere.

The warmth of welcome reflects a school that understands relationships to be at the core of effective learning, personal exploration and growth.

VIEW THE FOOTAGE ...

bradfordgrammar.com/welcome



3



4



5

Our first Overseas University Fair

On Monday 13 November BGS hosted its first Overseas University Fair.

Representatives from twelve universities based in America, Canada and Europe set up in the Price Hall and spoke to pupils about the opportunities available to study overseas. The event attracted pupils from other schools as well as BGS pupils. It was fantastic that so many students and parents took the chance to find out more about alternatives to the traditional UCAS route.

Swimming success

Rebecca Clynes (Year 9) competed at the European Youth Olympics in Hungary.

She qualified for the junior women's 200m breaststroke final in the 14 to 17 category of the British Swimming Championships. She won 5 gold medals at the Welsh national championships. Ciara Schlosshan also won gold in the 200m butterfly at the British Swimming Championships.

Jonny Milner (Year 12) did very well in the British Summer Championships, taking the 16-year-old title in 100m breaststroke and also taking the silver medal in the 50m breaststroke.

British Swimming has given him a place on the Sporting Excellence Award Programme. This is a scheme offered to top swimmers which Jonny will follow outside school time.

Washington DC

BGS students arrived at Dulles International Airport bathed in autumn sunshine fully intent on making the most of their week.

During their stay, they took in the famous sights such as Arlington Cemetery, the Lincoln Memorial, and the White House. Eating out was a major part of the trip, and students dined at restaurants made famous when the Obamas were President and First Lady. However, arguably the evening highlight was a trip to watch the city's ice hockey team, the 'Caps', despite them losing handsomely!

WW1 Battlefields trip

Year 11 Historians spent the beginning of October half term visiting the First World War Battlefields of Belgium and northern France.

This year, with the centenary of the Battle of Passchendaele, we focused on commemorating Old Bradfordians who lost their lives in the late summer and autumn of 1917. This included a very poignant ceremony at Tyne Cot to the eight OBs commemorated on its walls amongst those with no known grave. Henry Taggart played the Last Post movingly, we left a wreath, and a plaque made for us by the OBA.

Other highlights included walking the Somme Battlefield, a guided tour of the archaeological excavations of the British front line in Thiepval Wood, and spending some time in the wonderful Talbot House.

CAPTIONS

1 Inspiring and fascinating children through Science at BGS

2 Life in the Catalonian sun

3 The drone used to capture aerial footage of BGS

4 BGS pupils swim to success

5 Washington DC