

SUMMER  
2018

CHALLENGE 03-04  
ARTS 05-06  
COMMUNITY 07-14  
SPORT 09-12  
LIFE 15-20



Bradford  
Grammar  
School

# Mac Age

*Feature*

## Rocket car race day!

Our pupils took part in an exciting national competition to inspire the next generation of electronics engineers ...



CONTINUED ON PAGE 03

Year 7 pupils were among thousands across the country taking part in the 'Race for the Line' competition, which challenged pupils to design, build and race a rocket car that goes faster than 1,000mph.



Bradford  
Grammar  
School

## Welcome from the Headmaster

As I write we are at the mid-point in public examinations season, so typically the weather outside is sunny and fair!



Exams are important of course and all students across the age range are working hard to do their best, but exams do not dominate life at BGS. Trips, lunchtime clubs and societies, and music and sport continue to flourish and provide a welcome balance to some of the academic pressures that inevitably visit schools in the summer term. Soon, we will all be celebrating success at our annual Speech Day and enjoying end of year performances in both the Junior and Senior Schools, before recharging our batteries over a deserved summer holiday.

At the end of the year, we reflect on what we have achieved and contemplate the shape of things to come as we continue to take BGS forwards. Significantly, we also say goodbye to our upper Sixth Form leavers, they are a great bunch and we all wish them every success and happiness in the next chapter of their lives. Hoc Age.

*Simon Hinchliffe*

Simon Hinchliffe

LATEST BLOG ...

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JUL/AUG

12-27 July  
Netball Senior Tour, Australia  
18 July  
OBA Golf Bacchus Cup

16-26 August  
Rugby Senior Squad  
Development Tour,  
USA and Canada

SEP/OCT

19-21 September  
Year 7 Transition Trip,  
PGL Lincolnshire

25 September  
Founders' Day

6 October  
Open Day

11-14 October  
Junior Classics Trip

11 October  
Music Outreach Day

17-21 October  
History GCSE Battlefields,  
France

17-22 October  
English A Level Study Tour,  
New York, USA

NOV/DEC

1 November  
Sixth Form Information  
Evening

14 November  
Open Morning

10 December  
Nine Lessons and Carols

### The Deputy Headmaster writes ...

#### The rise in manufacturing

Bradford is a richly diverse and multi-layered city and there are opportunities for everyone. This is why BGS has become one of the first schools to get behind Bradford Manufacturing Week. There is a new wave of positivity about the city and its surroundings that we are delighted to be a part of. We need to capitalise on this momentum and help encourage young people from all backgrounds to take advantage of what the city has to offer.

One of our most important responsibilities as educators here at BGS is to inform our students about the world of work that lies ahead of them, so that they can make the best career decisions for themselves – this initiative is one way to do just that. Bradford is a growing



economy proudly built upon manufacturing and, with initiatives such as the Bradford Manufacturing Week, we can find new and exciting ways to inspire young minds.

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 01

“...”

Their camaraderie was palpable; they demonstrated great support and encouragement of each other.

EMMA TOMLINSON

Head of Year 7

Led by the BLOODHOUND team of engineers, the competition gave pupils a taste of super speed by designing their own cars using the BBC micro:bit, a remarkable mini PC that teaches youngsters and adults how to code.

Schools with the fastest teams had the chance to win a trip to South Africa to spend an unforgettable week with the BLOODHOUND team as they strive to break the Land Speed Record.

BGS Head of Year 7, Emma Tomlinson, said: 'It's been an amazing event and the pupils absolutely loved it. Their camaraderie was palpable; they demonstrated great support and encouragement of each other.

It's a great opportunity to get pupils excited about science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), work as a team and get hands on experience of programming and aerodynamics in one of the most enjoyable ways possible.'

Aside from all the fun, the cross-curricular learning included Newton's Third Law of Motion, physics, engineering, how rockets work, teamwork and mathematics to calculate the speed. It was a fantastic afternoon for all involved.

Lance Corporal De Silva added:

'The pupils have been so enthusiastic; the most enthusiastic of all the groups we have worked with so far. The fastest time recorded today was 45.3 milliseconds, which incidentally is the fastest time we have recorded so far! BGS could be in with a shot at the title, which is great. It has been a pleasure to be here today.'

READ MORE ...

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## Top programmer wins national final

Alex Davies won the national final of a competition to find the best computer programmer in the country.

Alex was invited to enter the Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) Oxford Computing Challenge (OCC) alongside 73 other Bradford Grammar School pupils that achieved a top 10 percent score in the UK Bebras computational thinking challenge.

More than 5,300 students from across the UK participated in the Oxford Computing Challenge, sponsored by TCS and the University of Oxford. The challenge is an initiative, which helps talented computational thinkers develop their skills by asking them to solve tasks with programmed solutions.

Alex scored maximum points in the entire intermediate age category, making him the best programmer in the country in his age group. He said: 'Entering the challenge was a great opportunity to challenge myself against other children from all over the country. Some of the questions seemed impossible so I was really surprised, but very happy, when I won.'

“...”

This is fantastic news for Alex and well deserved. To get through to the UK Bebras and TCS OCC finals shows he has an exceptional problem-solving ability.

CHRISTINE HARVEY

Head of Computer Science

CAPTIONS

1 At the presentation day I got the brilliant opportunity to try out mixed reality technologies ...

BGS was thrilled to host a popular Mini Triathlon – created by former pupils and Olympians, the Brownlee Brothers – to inspire the next generation of athletes.

# Pupils take part in Olympic Triathlon taster

**CAPTIONS**  
1 It's always a pleasure to welcome other local schools to get involved in this community event...  
2 More than 1,000 children from 45 schools took part in the Triathlon  
3 The annual hockey fun day was another huge success for BGS hockey



More than 1,000 children from 45 schools took part in The Brownlee Foundation's Mini Triathlon in the beautiful surroundings of Bradford Grammar School.

Almost 200 BGS Juniors participated and were handed their finisher medals by Keith and Cath Brownlee, parents of the Olympic triathletes Alistair and Jonny Brownlee, who are former pupils at the school.

BGS Junior School Headmistress, Kerry Howes, said: 'It was fantastic to see our pupils take part in the triathlon alongside local schools and be inspired by the event. This is a popular part of our calendar and our pupils certainly gave it their all.'

## Annual hockey fun day

The annual hockey fun day was another huge success for BGS hockey, showing the true talent of so many of our pupils.

The afternoon started off with the 1st team vs parents and OBs, followed by lower school rivalry boys vs girls.

The main highlights were the 1st team taking the title for the Broken Hockey Stick Trophy beating the Staff team 1-0, and the U14 and U15 girls played the parents.

Thanks to all those involved, hopefully the staff can win back the trophy next year.

Oliver Rogers, BGS Director of Sport said: 'Sport at BGS is for everyone whatever their ability. It's always a pleasure to welcome other local schools to get involved in this community event, build relationships and ultimately boost children's mental and physical health.'

This fun event gave children the chance to give triathlon a 'tri', and inspired them to get more active. It's organised by the Brownlee Foundation, which is committed to helping children get active in any sport, not just triathlon, and encourage them to participate regularly in sport.

A spokesperson for the Brownlee Foundation said: 'It has been great to return to Bradford Grammar School for another successful event. It's wonderful to see so many children taking part and our thanks go to Bradford Grammar School for their continued support.'

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Arts



# BGS to host art exhibition

Join Bradford Grammar School at Cartwright Hall Art Gallery in celebrating their latest public art exhibition, displaying many pupils' outstanding artwork.

The preview is the perfect evening to appreciate not only the latest talent from BGS but to enjoy some drinks, snacks and friendly company, all in the surroundings of one of David Hockney's favourite galleries.

The exhibition will run from Saturday 17 November to Sunday 6 January 2019.

**BOOK YOUR FREE TICKETS ...**  
[bgsartexhibit.eventbrite.co.uk](http://bgsartexhibit.eventbrite.co.uk)





## Arts class for Ilkley Carnival competition winners

BGS announced its support of the Ilkley Carnival this year through a 'TV-themed' creative competition.

The competition winner – and their classmates – took part in a creative workshop utilising the school's extensive art facilities.

The School's sponsorship of the Carnival's annual arts competition adds further value to the winner's prize of having their artwork printed on the cover of the event's official programme, which was handed out before, and on, carnival day.

Committee member, Karen Hitchin, said: 'The cover competition was a real highlight of the carnival calendar as it encourages local children to bring our theme to life through their fantastic art work. To have this celebrated and supported by BGS is absolutely fantastic and we're thrilled that the winning child, and their classmates, had the opportunity to flex their creative muscles even further in a specially-created BGS art workshop.'

Josie Barraclough, BGS Head of Art, said: 'It is our ethos to work with schools throughout the district to share experiences, learn from each other and support the many communities that our pupils come from.

Ilkley Carnival has a fantastic reputation as an engaging local event which is loved by families from inside and outside of the area. We are delighted to be working with the committee to encourage cover competition entries, see the talented artwork that is produced and host a very special arts workshop for the winning child and his or her classmates.'

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“...”

... we're thrilled that the winning child, and their classmates, had the opportunity to flex their creative muscles even further in a specially-created BGS art workshop.

**KAREN HITCHIN**  
 Ilkley Carnival committee member

## Community

“...”

Students had great fun learning the basic techniques and putting them into practice by cooking a range of tasty but budget friendly recipes ...



## BGS and Oasis tackle rough terrain and deep questions at Nell Bank

While students at BGS and Oasis Academy Lister Park may share a fence, it would be fair to say that they do not have as many opportunities to interact.

However, two classes from each school in Years 8 and 9 have been given the chance to see past labels and get to know one another by working in collaboration on deeper questions around identity, diversity and community.

The Year 9 groups from each school visited Nell Bank to focus on building leadership skills by participating in a series of challenges outdoors.

It would be fair to say that the weather was in stark contrast to the heatwave experienced just a few days before, but pupils and staff were in good spirits. Students had a chance to do orienteering, archery and brave an assault course. It was a fantastic day and we hope to continue our links with Oasis Academy.





## Children's hospice fashion show

Pupils raised over £7,000 for a local children's hospice with a fashion show. The money will go to Forget Me Not Hospice, which supports children with life-shortening conditions.

The show had the theme of 'Night at the Movies.' Netball coach and organiser Georgina Jones said: 'We've been so impressed with the incredible enthusiasm of the pupils and staff and we'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who took part in this wonderful fundraising event.'

BGS Headmaster Simon Hinchliffe said: 'The pupils and all the staff worked very hard to make the show 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.'

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Bradford Grammar School

# Hac Age

A positive relationship with sport, in some form or another, is wonderful, enriching and potentially life-changing

SPORT



**CAPTIONS**  
5 Henry Reed-Purvis has had great success playing The Lams – Independent Schools Rugby



6 Team BGS at Skipton Triathlon 7 Adam Cassere



8 Alex Flaherty, Oliver Peace, Rebecca Flaherty and Redford Holdsworth

9 Four BGS pupils achieved individual competition success in the National Open Jiu Jitsu competition

10 Obi Ene and Mbako Chalashika are rising stars in Rugby

# TAEKWONDO GLORY

A taekwondo star from Shipley will represent Great Britain at the European Cadet Championship in Latvia in the summer. Adam Cassere, 13, qualified for Team GB at the European President's Cup for Children, in Germany.

Adam has been training in Taekwondo for six years and first started in primary school after seeing his friend travel to Germany for a competition.

'I really liked the sound of it as well as the travelling opportunities. I found I enjoyed it so this spurred me on. It feels like I've gone from strength to strength. Qualifying for the European Cadet Championship was so exciting,' he said.

BGS Director of Sport, Oliver Rogers said: 'Taekwondo is really unique in that it provides a great environment for learning the importance of perseverance and excellence, building strength and character, stamina, flexibility and camaraderie.'

'Like any martial arts, the art of taekwondo reinforces physical aspects of exercise by improving general health, mental focus, respect and self-confidence, which ultimately sharpen concentration and academic performance.'

Adam reflected on the intensity of the sport: 'It's usually three rounds of one and a half minutes. It can be very intense if you have up to five fights in a day, but I relish it. The best part is when you win. At the nationals last year I was up against two people I had lost to previously, so it was great to beat them a year on and see how much I'd progressed.'

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## SCHOOL SWIM STARS HEAD TO NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

A BGS swimming star will represent Great Britain at the European Junior Championships in Finland this summer.

Ciara Schlosshan, 16, qualified for Team GB at the British Swimming Championships in Edinburgh.

Her success comes as two other pupils at BGS, Jonathan Milner, 16 and Rebecca Clynes, 15, both from Leeds, have been selected to represent the North division at the English Schools National Swimming Championships.

Ciara said: 'BGS really supports me with my passion. They are extremely helpful in ensuring I balance academic studies with competitions and training camps.'



“...”  
I absolutely loved coming back ...

**ABBY-MAE PARKINSON**  
Team GB Cyclist and Old Bradfordian

## TEAM GB CYCLIST INSPIRES PUPILS

Abby-Mae Parkinson took a trip back in time by paying a visit to the place that helped shape the professional athlete she would become – BGS.

After spending 12 years of her life in BGS's classrooms and on it's playing fields, it was a cathartic visit for the 20-year-old Dewsbury-born rider, who was taking part in the Every Can Counts recycling initiative.

In return, Parkinson hoped students would come out and support her on the 132.5km trek from Beverley to Doncaster, followed by the slightly tougher 149km jaunt from Barnsley to Ilkley.

'It's going to be an epic race, and super tough,' added Parkinson. 'This is my last race before a mid-season break, but the home roads give me so much motivation.'

Despite her relatively tender years, Parkinson comes into the expanded Asda Tour de Yorkshire Women's Race in good form having posted creditable finishes in strong company during the Spring Classics season; the Tour of Flanders, Amstel Gold Race, Fleche-Wallonne and Liege-Bastogne-Liege.

## TABLE TENNIS TEAM HIT UK TOP 10

A table tennis team from BGS has been crowned West Yorkshire champions and placed in the top eight in the UK.

Emily Mellor, Aliza Khaliq, Mahum Sheraz and Pippa Threlfall, BGS's girls under 16 team, were among 200 players in the West Yorkshire Schools Individual and English Schools Table Tennis Association (ESTTA) competitions, which were hosted at BGS.

BGS Director of Sport, Oliver Rogers, said: 'The table tennis squads have worked really hard during lunch times to develop their ability with the support of our passionate staff. There is a lot of interest from the students and this has created a healthy amount of competition within the squads.'

I am very proud of all the players that are involved in our sports programme. The future for sport at Bradford Grammar School is very exciting and we will continue to give students opportunities to be active and competitive which is crucial to developing well-rounded young people.'

**CAPTIONS**  
1 Team GB Cyclist and Old Bradfordian Abby-Mae Parkinson with BGS pupils



**CAPTIONS**

1 Clara Schlosshan, Jonathan Milner, and Rebecca Clynes

2 Great work from our U13 Boys who were crowned West Yorkshire In2Hockey champions

3 Eva Lockett, Naina Krishna, Jaya Krishna

4 Emily Mellor, Aliza Khaliq, Mahum Sheraz and Pippa Threlfall



# A NEW VISION FOR BGS SPORT...

A school like BGS is all about people and so is our sport, which caters for everyone, whatever his or her ability.

We want to nurture our pupils and give them the support and expertise they need in order to gain the confidence to try new sports and excel in their chosen fields.

My name is Oliver Rogers, I am the Director of Sport at Bradford Grammar School (BGS). The previous pages will have given you an insight into the sporting experiences that build character, camaraderie and school spirit in all our pupils.

A positive relationship with sport, in some form or another, is a wonderful, enriching and potentially life-changing thing. In an era of growing concern for children's mental health, the advantages of teamship have never been more important in building emotional intelligence. Our sport provides an essential ingredient in a balanced school curriculum.

We are lucky to have specialist coaches in cross country, cricket, rowing and hockey – many with county and national experience – which is fantastic for our pupils. Having the right expertise helps them aim high with their own sporting visions and is a crucial part of physical achievement.

Another factor for sporting success is having the right facilities in place, so we're delighted to see the creation of our new multi-million pound sports development over the next year. The investment will create new cricket lanes, netball and tennis courts, astro turfed hockey pitches and a new sports barn. The development is part of BGS's new sporting vision which will also see us welcoming more high calibre coaches to the BGS team.

I firmly believe that, regardless of age, gender or ethnicity, sport can be enjoyed by all. Its reach is unrivalled, gives real foundations in life, and promotes universal values that improve achievement and behaviour. We hope you agree that the future for sport at Bradford Grammar School is very exciting, and we will continue to give pupils opportunities to be active and competitive which is crucial to developing well-rounded young people.



**Oliver Rogers**  
Director of Sport  
OSR@bradfordgrammar.com  
@GrammarSport



Bradford  
Grammar  
School



“...”  
This money will go towards desperately needed services for children with life-shortening conditions.



## Pupils work together to raise awareness of epilepsy

Year 7 pupils organised a week of fundraising activities to help promote awareness of epilepsy, and to raise money for Epilepsy Action, a national charity which helps to support people living with epilepsy in the UK.

Activities began with an assembly to the whole school. Throughout the week pupils were involved in making and selling purple ribbons around school. Finally, 7TNB held a purple-themed bake sale, which included some fabulous looking buns.

They raised almost £300 from their fundraising. This will help to fund the expansion of the Epilepsy Action helpline, which provides telephone support to people who are living with epilepsy, but currently struggles to keep up with demand. Congratulations and a big thank you to all of the pupils who were involved.

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## BGS Spring Fair

This year's Spring Fair theme was 'BGS-Fest', a festival celebration of our fantastic grounds and strong Yorkshire roots.

The event, as always, was very well supported by both school and members of the wider community. We're already looking forward to next year's event!

“...”

... not only was the trip educational, but also thoroughly enjoyable ...

BEA  
Year 13



## BGS Château trip to Normandy

We were thrilled to return to the Château de la Baudonnière in Normandy during the Easter holidays. Fifty excited pupils from Year 7 and 8 took part, along with Sixth Form linguists keen to improve their speaking and listening skills in preparation for their A Level exam.

The highlight for many was a walk across the quicksands at Le Mont Saint-Michel led by a local guide, before a quick visit to the historic monument itself. It was lovely to enjoy the Château's delicious traditional French food again and a range of fun evening entertainments. Pupils threw themselves into all the

activities with a great spirit of teamwork and by the end of our visit were confidently speaking French to the team of friendly 'animateurs'. Pupils were a credit to BGS and their teachers.



'Visiting Le Mont Saint-Michel, playing aéroballe, walking in quicksand and milking goats are only a few glimpses into the Sixth Form trip to the Château de la Baudonnière in Normandy. Throughout its duration, students spoke only in French to the instructors, which was especially beneficial to the Sixth Form with exams soon approaching. Not only was the trip educational, but also thoroughly enjoyable and we all consider ourselves very lucky to be given the opportunity to get such an incredible insight into the French culture.'

Bea, Year 13

'Despite the very English weather, the whole experience was veritably French. Sampling local delicacies and speaking French left all the Sixth Form on the trip more confident, fluent and natural when speaking French.'

Theo, Year 13

'The French trip to the Château de la Baudonnière was very good, it taught us many French words that we did not know before and in a very different, but effective, way. My favourite part of the trip was going to the quicksand and having fun making the ground wobble. I think it was very good.'

Daniel, Year 7

**CAPTIONS**  
1 Year 7 and 8 along with Sixth Form linguists were keen to improve their speaking and listening skills in Normandy  
2 'Sampling local delicacies and speaking with natives left all the Sixth Form on the trip more confident and fluent ...'



# Our Year 10 trip to Amsterdam



The city of tulips and bicycles and clogs and much more ... writes Condoleezza and Antonia, Year 10

A large group of Year 10 students, Mr Norman, Mrs Horsfield and Mr Thornton sleepily boarded a plane that would take them to Amsterdam.

The whole purpose of this trip was to explore many different styles of art, from baroque to post impressionism to modern art!

After dropping our heavy luggage off at the Meninger Youth Hostel (which was well structured and capacious), we quickly boarded a tram to go to the city centre. Stereotypes converged on this journey as we saw the canals, bicycles and tall buildings lining the city.

We then had lunch in the surroundings, and strolled around in the beautiful sun-lit park.

We regained our strength and at half past one quickly made our way to the Stedelijk museum of modern art. After we had walked into the beautifully designed white museum, we were free to roam around among the array of sculptures, photographs and even

arrangements. It was extremely interesting to see how differently artists expressed their opinions of what emotions and art should be.

Feeling more refreshed in the afternoon it was time to take a boat tour of the city through the canals. We sat peacefully, painting the views with the set of inks we had been given and listening to the tour guide's facts about the city of tulips.

... it was clear that Amsterdam is extremely eco-friendly ...

Since we had had a heavy day, we immediately returned to the Meininger hostel, and had an early dinner before retreating to our beds.

The next day, after a buffet breakfast, we once again made our journey to a museum by tram. At this point, it was clear that Amsterdam is extremely eco-friendly; the most common means of transportation was tram or bicycle and seldom do people drive.

The museum we first visited was the Body Worlds Museum. The general initial reaction to this concept was not enthusiastic, as it is a museum exhibiting the skinned bodies of humans and unborn foetuses. However, as we got used to the idea, strolling through the dimly lit rooms and watching corpses in the most extreme of positions, it became less absurd and more like looking at art. There can be no doubt that the exhibition presented a very thought provoking and impactful statement.

... we strolled through the shop as rock music set a pleasant atmosphere, and explored some tourist shops, purchasing interesting, controversial and memorable souvenirs.

Having reached midday, many of us went to cafes for lunch, before proceeding to the Foam museum of photography.

The setup of the place was certainly gripping, as it had odd and quirky arrangements of staircases and artwork. When I say artwork, I mean photographs, for the gallery displayed mainly photos; they captured poverty, natural beauty, ideas of war, and many other raw topics.

Using our books again, we sketched and depicted the aspects of the gallery most personally captivating to each of us, before returning to our hostel to freshen up.

We then made our way once again to central Amsterdam, and had a dinner of burgers, salads and fries in the smoky atmosphere of the Hard Rock Café. For a while proceeding it, we strolled through the shop as rock music set a pleasant atmosphere, and explored some tourist shops, purchasing interesting, controversial and memorable souvenirs.

As it was dark and we had a busy day ahead, in due course we advanced to reach the Meininger, once again, and sleep.

Day three met us with a roar as we marched our way through the main museum street to the impressive building of the Rijksmuseum. We saw a huge variety of different types of artwork here, ranging from furniture, goblets and paintings. Stuffed to the brim with rich colours and textures, some of us even dared to sample the carrot cake in the museum restaurant. It was a winner.

However, carrot cake does not fill a growing teenager and under the guidance of our three teachers, a shopping trip was organised off to the nearest supermarket. Cheese, bread, crisps, fruit, pop and chocolate was bought and consumed at Vondelpark. This is where we were introduced to the local hungry geese and within 5 minutes, Noah was edging his way around the lake precariously trying to retrieve the football. Finding a quiet spot we spent time painting before we returned to the hotel to prepare for an evening meal of our choice.



... Many great memories were made on this trip and it was certainly packed to the brim with art ...

On our final day, having packed up our rooms and storing our bags we visited the Van Gogh Museum that was immense. It covered every period of his life and in a strange way, although his life seemed quite dark and turbulent, the museum danced with colour. We bought a few more souvenirs for home and it was off back to the hotel. A final group meeting revealed winners of trip competitions; best tourist, quintessential Amsterdam, tackiest object and lots more.

Many great memories were made on this trip and it was certainly packed to the brim with art and more art. Amsterdam is a great city and I know many of us will return.

Written by Condoleezza and Antonia, Year 10

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## CAPTIONS

1 Amsterdam: the city of tulips and bicycles and clogs and much more

2 The whole purpose of this trip was to explore many different styles of art, from baroque to post impressionism to modern art

3 'A great city I know, many of us will go and visit again.'

The Open Science Lectures have continued to be very popular with pupils and parents. Before Christmas we had a fascinating lecture from Prof. Stuart Egginton (University of Leeds), titled 'Life in the Freezer', during which he explained what was involved in doing research in inaccessible places, such as Antarctica, as well as introducing us to his findings. We also hosted hosted Dr Catherine Walsh (University of Leeds).

# Open Science Lectures

Pupil Evie, Year 8 writes:

In this well-attended event, 'Molecules in Space – Our Interstellar Origins', Dr Walsh spoke on one of her favourite areas of research. We were treated to a journey to space, to hear how the dark and seemingly empty expanse is filled with molecules. The lecture on 'molecules in space' was not only interesting, as it explained about elements and planets forming, but also captivating, as the images of nebulas, supernovas and gas giants played across the screen. Dr Walsh used information and results from telescopes from the forefront of scientific research to explain how stars and planets are formed using molecules.

To give some idea of scale, Dr Walsh explained that the molecular density in a room (1cm<sup>3</sup>) would have a temperature of 20°C, with the number of molecules at 10<sup>25</sup> (10 septillion) and a reaction rate of 10<sup>18</sup> p/s (1 quintillion per second). However, the molecular density in an interstellar (material that exists between planets and stars) cloud would have a temperature of -263°C, (10°C away from absolute zero, when atoms stop moving) with the number of molecules at 10<sup>10</sup> (10 billion), and a reaction rate of 1 per day to 1 per year.

All this confusing information essentially means that it is easier for a group of elements to come

together and create a compound in a normal room on Earth than it is in the space between planets. This helps us to understand how amazing the universe is, and how long it has been in existence, to reach this point.

Dr Walsh asked: 'Are we alone in space?'. Given that the molecules she was lecturing on have been shown to be the origins of life on this planet, it seems unlikely that the answer to the question is 'yes'. Dr Walsh's lecture came just over a week after the death of Professor Stephen Hawking, so it was fitting that she concluded the lecture with a quote from him: 'The idea that we are alone in the universe seems to me completely implausible and arrogant, considering the number of planets and stars that we know exist, it's extremely unlikely that we are the only form of evolved life.' – Professor Stephen Hawking

Written by Evie, Year 8



“...”

... this was a worthwhile trip, which would go a long way towards helping our students maximise their potential at GCSE.

## German trip to Cologne

Nineteen Year 10 and 11 pupils participated in the first GCSE German trip to Cologne in March 2018.

The aim of the trip was to provide students with an opportunity to study German while surrounded by the people and culture in this fascinating country. We stayed at the city centre's modern youth hostel, with its comfortable rooms, restaurant and ample study areas.

Excursions consisted of a variety of authentic experiences, from visiting a German school to gain an insight into the German school system, to visiting Cologne's famous cathedral and leaving the city for two of the beautiful towns in the surrounding countryside. Each excursion had an accompanying activity matched to the GCSE and there was an hour's study of one component of the examination each evening. All agreed that this was a worthwhile trip which would go a long way towards helping students maximise their potential at GCSE.

READ MORE ...  
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CAPTIONS  
1 Students had the opportunity to study German surrounded by this fascinating country

“...”

Dr Walsh used scientific research to explain how stars and planets are formed using molecules ...

## Read all about it ...!

Do you have exciting news you'd like to see featured in a future edition of 'Hoc Age' or published on our school website?

We'd love to hear about pupil achievements, both inside or outside of school, specific talents, competition successes, family or career news – in fact, anything at all that you or your family are proud of!

Please get in touch at [press@bradfordgrammar.com](mailto:press@bradfordgrammar.com)



### What a Whitby treat!

There was glorious weather in Whitby and a beautiful setting to reflect, as well as to study hard in preparation for the examination season ahead.

Year 11 embraced all the opportunities of the Religious Studies retreat. Our visit to Whitby Abbey was even more special given the spectacular views out to sea as we gazed on the inspiring memorial to Caedmon at the top of the 199 steps.

As usual, we were overwhelmed by the generous hospitality of the Sisters of the Holy Paraclete. They discussed openly their vocations as nuns and their work in the Priory of St Hilda, Whitby and internationally to intensive learning and unforgettable experiences. Well done to our Year 11s.

### History study morning in Saltaire

As part of their study of the Industrial Revolution, Year 8 was able to get out of the classroom on a sunny May morning to experience first-hand a site of national importance, just down the road in Saltaire.

The focus of their investigation was 'The Significance of Sir Titus Salt', the great Victorian

entrepreneur whose factory and model village is now a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. By exploring the village and key buildings, pupils were encouraged to think about Salt's motivation and his legacy. As expected, the pupils were a credit to the school and a picnic lunch in Roberts Park was much enjoyed before we had to get the train back for afternoon lessons.



### Sixth Form German Study Day

Sixth Form Germanists attended a study day in Sheffield organised by the Association for Language Learning.

First, they were given advice on maximising performance in the speaking and writing components of the A Level examination, coming away from the session with the thoughts of the examiners as well as checklists to use on the day of the examination to ensure they have met all the requirements. A workshop followed to develop knowledge and understanding of the film to be watched in the afternoon, 'Der Baader-Meinhof Komplex'.

The film and workshop looked at society in 1970s West Germany and set Year 13's current studies in their historical context, while giving Year 12 ideas for next year. The study day was overall an excellent opportunity to brush up knowledge and skills and pick up hints and tips to help them as they prepare for their A Level examinations.



#### CAPTIONS

1 The study day was an excellent opportunity to prepare for A Level examinations

2 Glorious weather in Whitby and a beautiful setting!

3 Pupils were encouraged to think about the Significance of Sir Titus Salt's motivation and legacy

“...”  
There was glorious weather in Whitby and a beautiful setting to reflect, as well as to study ...