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Bradford
Grammar
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The Bradfordian



Dr Simon Hinchliffe
'From the Headmaster ...' extract

A deserving winner

BGS has been awarded the
accolade of 'The Sunday Times
Northern Independent School
of the Year 2018'

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School Notes



From the Headmaster ...

Welcome readers of the Bradfordian.

The countless goings-on that characterise life at Bradford Grammar School (BGS) are celebrated in the pages that follow. Not an exhaustive digest by any means, but a lively snapshot of our wonderful school.

I hope you enjoy all that follows and share in the great pride I feel when reflecting on the commitment of our young people to take full advantage of the opportunities available at BGS. The 'Hoc Age' spirit is alive and well at the modern BGS.

School activities and successes, guided by our age-old motto, have been noticed. The Good Schools Guide and the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) visited us before Christmas and turned their attention to the fine grain of BGS life. The former were a little more effusive than ISI in comment, but 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". Quoting ISI is more of an exercise in economy, put simply they said, "pass". The key thing to note here is that not every school, however pukka, passes sadly. What look like rather bland judgments regarding compliance sit as a veneer on a mountain of ongoing work to ensure that the children at this school are safe, carefully looked after and well educated. A volume of ongoing work underpinned our ISI inspection success and we thank those of you who completed questionnaires to aid the inspectors in their endeavours.

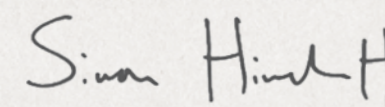
We were delighted with the assessments of both ISI and The Good Schools Guide, and then, to hear unbidden, that BGS had been awarded the accolade of 'The Sunday Times Northern Independent School of the Year 2018' layered much icing on the cake. Alastair McCall, Editor of the Sunday Times Parent Power, 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. It's a deserving winner of our award."

To be clear, this is not one of those awards that your mate nominates you for. Nor does it reflect cosy relationships with editors. There was no paying for a table at a gala dinner, which in turn guarantees a chance of success in an award category. Recognition was unsolicited, objective and based upon superb, steadily improving academic results and our wider, enriching co-curricular programme, which continues to grow. Bradford Grammar School – Sunday Times Northern Independent School of the Year 2018. It is an accolade to be proud of, most particularly for students at the school, because it is a measure of them, their qualities and character.

We are however in no way self-satisfied. We do not get cocky. We get on with the job. It is this quality about BGS, the manner in which high aspiration is achieved and understood - no nonsense, grounded, down to earth - that makes us special. Success is embraced with characteristic Bradfordian modesty. I perceive this to be a virtue.

I wrote in the programme for Speech Day recently, "our world has its troubles, but schools like BGS, and the young people they help to nurture, play a positive role in wider society and that gives me justified cause for optimism and hope". The pages that follow serve only to strengthen my faith in our young people.

I hope you enjoy reading this latest edition of 'The Bradfordian'.



Dr Simon Hincliffe
BA, MEd, PhD, FRSA
Headmaster



Speech Day 2018 Headmaster's Speech

Lord-Lieutenant, Vice Lord-Lieutenant, High Sheriff, Lord Mayor, Kate Newton, Honoured Guests, Governors, Ladies and Gentlemen and members of the school. Please allow me to add my words of welcome to those of Professor Mellors, who I would also like to thank for his opening address. Thank you, Colin. I remain deeply grateful to our Chairman, Lady Morrison, and The Board of Governors for their unfailing service and support – they make a significant contribution to Bradford Grammar School, thank you all.

Here we are again, Speech Day 2018. I continue to find it quite impossible to give a full and representative account of the past year at BGS in this annual address. I wish I had the words, the wherewithal to capture the essence of the year; but I know I will once again fall short. However, I will try. On this stage in 2017, I focussed on the second half of the academic year; today I ask you to cast your minds back to the first term, that pre-Christmas period, as I endeavour to provide a flavour of life at BGS.

September started with celebrations.

Year 11 had a record-breaking year with nearly half of all GCSEs awarded at A*, a remarkable result and an increase on last year's record. Two thirds of all exams taken were awarded A* or A grades, well over three times above the national average and our second highest total ever. At Year 13, the vast majority of our leavers achieved a place at their first choice university thanks to some excellent results. A Level outcomes remained exceptionally strong with one in five grades at A* and nearly two thirds at A*A, up on previous years.

These headlines of annual improvement are fantastic, great for BGS students and the wider educational scene in Bradford. Success of this kind is not accidental and bright children do not do equally well irrespective of the school they attend. The dynamic is right at BGS for encouraging everyone to be the best they can be. Students and teachers model healthy and purposeful relationships, strive for excellence and engage actively in the process of teaching and learning. Lessons are lively, designed to challenge and are satisfying.

Each year it is gratifying to be able to talk about new records, breaking new academic ground, but that is not the only game in town, not the 'be all, and end all'. Beyond the strapline statistics, we are keenly aware of the many exam successes that represent a personal triumph for those students who achieved or exceeded expectations, at all levels of achievement. While we are rightly proud of the overall balance of results, it is the many individual stories of accomplishment and success that will stick longest in the memory – the personal, human dimension matters most. Not everyone achieves the highest grades, but a life changing and affirming education is open to all at BGS and value is added across the board in many ways both inside and outside of the classroom.

To that end, back in September while we recognised academic successes, we also celebrated the achievements of a summer expedition to Myanmar, Rugby Tour to Portugal, Duke of Edinburgh Gold qualifying expedition and the annual Combined Cadet Force (CCF) Camp, according them equal value in the round with exam achievements. The total commitment of BGS students to their work and the wider opportunities at school never ceases to amaze. Life at BGS is rich and sustaining in every respect. We work hard and we play nicely with each other.

The message is clear, honest effort and a positive mindset – encapsulated in our age old School credo of 'Hoc Age', roughly translated as 'just do it' – pay dividends and speak volumes about the unfussy and high achieving character of Bradford Grammar School. The young people at this wonderful school make me very proud. It is the manner in which they go about their lives at school, not simply what they achieve, that moves me most.

Autumn term began, therefore, with characteristic confidence, (never arrogance), as we contemplated the opportunities and possibilities ahead. So, what did we get up to in that first term?

Netball began with a pre-season training camp, two wins and a defeat, in York for the Firsts. A full fixture list of competitive games for all age groups was to follow. Highlights included an U16 winning squad in the Bradford Schools Tournament and the U14s being crowned County Champions.

Hockey fixtures have been lively and teams improved noticeably over the season. The Christmas Hockey Morning was a success, the attire and mood was festive. The introduction of boy's hockey in Years 7 and 8 has been a highlight of the year. The foundations were laid in the first term for success at U13 level with the boys coming third in the regional finals and reaching the quarterfinals of the National Cup.

Rugby teams in all age categories enjoyed some wonderful pre-Christmas competition. The First XV were unbeaten at half term, a feat not achieved since 2005 to 2006, and they ended the fifteen-a-side season with a win on tour against Colfes at Blackheath, London. A very special evening for those of us, students, parents, colleagues and Old Bradfordians alike, who were there.

Our rowers trained hard on Saturday mornings and made their annual foray to the Netherlands to pit themselves against seasoned opposition at Vecht. Closer to home we raced on the Tees, Ouse and Trent and, in a moving ceremony, named one of our new boats after Charles Holloway, former Headmaster at Westville House and Chairman of the BGS Boat Club Parents' Association. A fitting tribute for a good man.

U13 girls and boys teams came away as winners of a West Yorkshire Table Tennis Association competition, just two results in an extensive programme that saw BGS hosting various high profile tournaments.

The long and short of it is that we have, thrown, caught and hit balls of various shapes and sizes with great skill and nerve. We have swum, run and bounced with determination and spirit, supported each other and dug deep as individuals and for our teams. I can't move on without tipping my cap to the success of our runners. Noble BGS traditions live on.

The growth of volunteering programmes continue to enrich life at BGS. A Sixth Form volunteering Fair in early September enabled students to access community-based opportunities in greater numbers than before. Our involvement, for example, in reading schemes in local primary schools, befriending work with Age UK, Neesie (supporting single mums and their children locally) and through our longstanding partnership with Barnardos Young Carers, goes from strength to strength. Through the Schools Linking project, our Year 8 and 9 students have enjoyed opportunities to interact with peers from Oasis Lister Park Academy at Cartwright Hall on a joint art and cultural project, and this partnership work continues to flourish.

I enjoyed my visit to Chellow Heights Special School before Christmas, where we volunteer regularly, and on this occasion performed carols and festive music. Meanwhile, substantial gifts of money were raised and donated to worthy causes, for example, through the enthusiastic efforts of the Rotary Interact Club and the annual JCI Bradford Secret Santa Appeal.

Our annual Founders' Day service in September began a formal calendar of musical performances, which developed through the course of the term with a guitar recital and the Chamber Concert in November. The autumn programme culminated in a BGS appearance at the switching on of the Saltaire Christmas lights, Christmas Concert in the Price Hall and the deeply affecting and uplifting Nine Lessons and Carols Service at Bradford Cathedral, which if you haven't yet attended is an evening not to be missed in future.

In short, the autumn term was packed with good learning and many varied and attractive opportunities to find and develop interests and passions. To be honest, we were shattered and fulfilled in equal measure by the time we broke up for Christmas.

Embracing a full academic and co-curricular life is eminently possible at BGS. The balance of opportunities for personal growth at our school provides a far more meaningful indication of 'school health' than any narrow, exam-based quantum. Education in the round, and enabling wider access to life changing opportunities, has ever been at the heart of the vision for BGS, and at the very core of our historic foundation.

One of the school's key ambitions going forwards is to increase the amount of fee assistance it offers to children from a variety of homes. Government provision of assisted places was reduced in 1979 and ended for good in 1997. Since the historic purpose of BGS has been to provide the best education for the most talented boys and girls, whatever their backgrounds, this is not what we would want. Therefore, our ambition in the coming years, and even decades, is to change that. The school and many generous alumni already provide funds for bright students to come from disadvantaged backgrounds. However, we need to do more, much more. In so doing, we will ensure that Bradford Grammar School will be fulfilling its civic and moral purpose, to enable children of great potential to enjoy a transformational education that will bring benefit not only to themselves, but also to everyone at this school, to this city and beyond. Our BGS assisted places have the power to transform lives, instilling aspiration and opening doors to brighter futures that would otherwise have remained closed.

Speech Day 2018

Headmaster's Speech continued ...

Meeting the challenge of accessibility represents a key area of our work at BGS. Everyone here, teaching and support staff, Governors, fully recognise the significant commitment – head, heart and pocket – that our families make to their children's education. No one welcomes an increase in fees. However, once again our 1.7% increase, which follows an annual increment of 1%, held for two years, demonstrates our sensitivity to, and respect for, our BGS families. Comparisons with other independent schools locally, regionally and nationally paint BGS in a wholly favourable light. Furthermore, our careful financial husbandry is not achieved at the expense of investment in education, which continues.

At this point in the address I would like to offer my sincere thanks to my excellent colleagues in all departments at school, support staff and teachers, whose commitment enables students at BGS to thrive. This school matters to them and their example inspires me.

Today we also say goodbye to some colleagues. I would like to start by paying tribute to Catherine Ing and Marion Pearson, loyal technicians in the departments of Biology and Chemistry respectively, who between them have chalked up 46 years of service to BGS. Today we thank them both and recognise their contribution to our school.

As is tradition, we also thank those teaching colleagues who have served BGS for a number of years and have left, or are leaving, this academic year. Angus Macnab, Nichol Nicholas, Andrew Galley and Matthew Barr take up positions in other schools. Bryan Townsend retires this year. We also say goodbye to Sarah Ball, Hannah Wong, Charles Linfield, Steven Davies and Belen Rodriguez-Rubio who returns to her native Spain. We also thank Julia Markham, Emma Stokes and Katie Priestly who have contributed much to BGS. I humbly offer my whole-hearted thanks to you all.

Two colleagues deserve a special mention before I finish.

Bob Page joined the Mathematics Department in 1989. He has made a significant difference to the work of the school, for example, as a former member of the Senior Leadership Team and as Head of Mathematics. Bob has also been a passionate supporter of BGS cricket over the years. While wearing many hats, Bob has remained a committed classroom practitioner and will be remembered, first and last I think, simply as a great teacher. Bob has served BGS for 29 years.

Ian Findlay was the Finance Manager before becoming the School Bursar and Clerk to the Board of Governors. Much of Ian's work goes unseen, but it is vital for the success of BGS. Ian understands that this school is bigger than any one of us, especially Headmasters who he has seen come and go. Bradford Grammar School has no more loyal a servant than Ian. He has attended to BGS with integrity and without ego. A man of principle, proportion and surprisingly for a Bursar, good humour, (let's be honest, he needs it as a supporter of Carlisle Untied FC). Ian has served BGS for 15 years.

Enjoy retirement gentlemen.

Please join me in a deserved round of applause to recognise all colleagues who are leaving, long serving or otherwise, and also those who continue to dedicate their service to Bradford Grammar School.

Schools like ours have a Prize Giving Speech Day. All schools have a story to tell. I genuinely believe that ours is special. BGS stands as a beacon of liberal education for the north, for the nation. Our offering and profile is developing, our civic connections are flourishing. We are playing an enlarged role in Bradford, Yorkshire and further afield, this can only benefit our students and our locality as we go forward as 'The Sunday Times Northern Independent School of the Year 2018', an accolade that speaks volumes about the quality of the young people at BGS and the clarity of our whole school vision.

I stand on this stage often, but the messages I communicate are simple. I encourage those who listen to live life to the full. To understand and embrace risk, change and growth. To not be afraid.

As I move towards the conclusion of this address, and reflecting this theme, I am minded to draw inspiration and wisdom from the words of Theodore Roosevelt. He said:

"The poorest way to face life is to face it with a sneer ... A cynical habit of thought and speech, a readiness to criticise work which the critic himself never tries to perform"

Roosevelt went on:

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood ... who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but ... who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

Strong stuff written in the language of the day, but relevant to everyone in this hall. The message in these words is clear. Inevitably life will be a bumpy road, but it provides quite a ride if you live it to the full. Much can be achieved in a lifetime for the benefit of all.

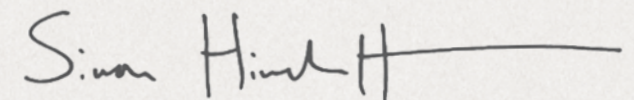
Our school motto 'Hoc Age' resonates with these noble sentiments encouraging us not to be the sour critic on the sidelines, but to be better than that, to make a difference, to get on and 'do it'...

... and not to worry about failure.

"A bad day for your ego is a great day for your soul," wrote personal trainer and successful businesswoman Jillian Michaels. I like that message.

It is a privilege to stand here as the twenty-ninth Headmaster of this iconic school and reflect on the year passed. Congratulations to our prize winners; but today is for all BGS students and the lives we make for ourselves – the obstacles we overcome, the successes we celebrate together, the small but significant measure of good that we do in this world.

Thank you for listening.



Dr Simon Hinchliffe
BA, MEd, PhD, FRSA
Headmaster

From the Junior School Headmistress ...

Junior School Speech Day 2018 Junior School Headmistress' Speech

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

This evening I would like to tell you about some of the successes we have enjoyed at the Junior School over the past year. I would also like to say a little about how we encourage our children to learn in an engaging and stimulating environment, allowing them to develop into unique, creative and confident young people.

Have you ever asked yourself why children come to school? What is the point of school? There are many answers to that question, but I think that the main point of school is to help children develop into successful and happy individuals.

When I was the same age as the children here this evening, adults often said to me, 'What do you want to be when you grow up?' I expect you children get a similar question.

When we are at school, we don't necessarily know what we want to do when we grow into adults, or even what we might be good at. Particularly in this day and age we don't even know what jobs will exist in the future. That is why it is so important for school to be a place where we can learn about ourselves, test ourselves, and find out what kind of people we can be. At school, we should be offered opportunities and choices to become the best people we possibly can.

Like the children here this evening, I was very fortunate to be in schools which thought it important to develop children's potential in all areas: academic, music, sport and creative arts. In addition, my schools, like this one, felt it was their responsibility to develop the children's life skills to enable them to be happy, fulfilled and fully functioning members of society. Like me!

Throughout my education, my teachers gave me opportunities to explore my interests and talents. It is so important to equip children with the skills to achieve their full potential. To contribute to the children's happiness and to their future success.

On a more philosophical note, I have always felt that it should also be an educator's aim to inspire future generations. That is exactly why I joined the teaching profession in the first place.

So, coming back to my original question, "Why do children come to school?" Those are just a few reasons. They are all essential to the way we treat our children here at Clock House. Then we go even further, and ask, 'How can this school best help our children develop into successful individuals?'

First and foremost, here at Bradford Grammar School we provide our children with a quality education, not just inside the classroom but outside too.

This year in the space of 37 weeks we have once again achieved an enormous amount in Clock House. We have seen educational trips for various year groups to Piece Hall in Halifax, Lotherton Hall, Abbey House Museum, two trips to Murton Park for a Stone Age day and an Anglo Saxon day, a Religious Studies visit to Bradford Cathedral, and history trips to Temple Newsam for a Tudor day and Bradford Industrial Museum to study the Victorians.



Year 3 took part in a Stone Age workshop where they learned bushcraft skills and Year 5 enjoyed an Ancient Egyptian workshop, although I'm not sure if they learned how to mummify people.

There have also been residential trips to Borrowdale and Keswick in the Lake District, Ingleborough Hall in Clapham and Bewerley Park in Pateley Bridge. Some children went on a Ski Trip to France during the Easter holidays.

These trips outside the classroom are all great fun, and as well as their educational value, they teach life skills: that sense of curiosity and wonder, optimism and positivity. A thirst for knowledge and an inquisitive mind. They build friendships, a sense of wellbeing and happy memories.

Another life skill we see as important is teamwork, and this is an area where sport can be inspiring. Over and above the usual fixtures in rugby, hockey, netball, cross-country, table tennis, swimming, rounders, cricket and athletics, the children have once again taken part in the Brownlee mini triathlon, World Orienteering Day and a mini marathon.

There are other kinds of teams apart from sports teams. This year we had great success at the National Quiz Club general knowledge competition with the children winning the area heat and going through to the semi-finals where they came fourth. We also competed well in the maths quiz. Then there is musical teamwork: the majority of the children entered the House Music Competition with the winners performing at the Spring Concert. Throughout the year, children have also entered for graded music exams.

Speech Day 2017

Junior School Headmistress' Speech continued ...

These have included European Language Day, Wear it Wild Day, Yorkshire Ambulance 'Start a Heart Day', our Harvest Appeal, Brownies World Thinking Day, NSPCC Number Day, Science Week and Shakespeare Day, when children and staff dressed up in Tudor costumes. We have had visits from the West Yorkshire Fire Service and the Dogs Trust. Year 6 children planned and ran a charity event which supported our PSHE programme. Snow closed the school on World Book Day but we rescheduled to a later date to allow the children to wear their costumes. We had success at the Ilkley Literature Festival and we hosted a book fair.

Then again, children have taken part in other kinds of collaborations: as part of our talented and more able programme, we continue to run our journalism club and a maths mastery club has been introduced this year. We continue to have strong links with the West Yorkshire Police Cyber Team who are always on hand to give advice and they work closely with the children through our cyber safety and cyber awareness workshops.

All the things I have just mentioned are opportunities that the children would not otherwise have had, to work with other people towards a common aim. In an enjoyable way, they educate them in the vital qualities of patience, resilience, self-discipline, dependability, leading and following, being proactive and respecting others. They can practise risk-taking in a supportive environment and, I believe, learn the values of honesty, kindness, determination, humility, compassion, gratitude and emotional robustness.

My point here is that when asking, 'How can this school best help our children develop into successful individuals?' we need to celebrate their achievements outside the classroom as well as in.

To round off this summary of our school year I must mention that alongside our many educational visits we have also enjoyed curriculum events and welcomed visiting speakers.

Over the last few weeks we have welcomed grandparents for Grandparents' Day and performed 'Shakespeare Rocks' our biennial production which saw the majority of the junior school involved in a matinee and two evening performances. Again another amazing performance from the children. Over the next few days we still have a Year 5 visit to Bradford Literary Festival and the Year 6 leavers' celebration.

A new initiative for this year has been the introduction of outdoor learning into the curriculum with the aim to inspire the children to be engaged and active learners, develop their innate curiosity while surrounded by nature.

Finally, but importantly, in the Autumn Term we passed our ISI Compliance Inspection. And did I say this was all in 37 weeks!

Our speakers this year are Emma Jones an Old Bradfordian, and her partner Jonathan Stodart. Emma – is, I think, an excellent example of how this school can help our children develop into successful individuals. On leaving school Emma achieved a first class (hons) degree in management science and then qualified as a chartered accountant. However, her love of the outdoors and a fortuitous meeting of Jonathan led her to her current career. Jonathan was the founder of Yorkshire Dales Bushcraft, having spent time previously with the British Military where he honed his basic survival skills in the harshest of environments.

Together, Emma and Jonathan now run Yorkshire Dales Bushcraft – this is an ideal career for a girl who enjoyed outdoor activities while here at school and has continued to pursue her sporting interests.

I have mentioned teamwork a couple of times. This is probably a good moment to acknowledge that the success of a school, like any well-run organisation, depends more on a good team than on any one person. Luckily, I have such a team around me, and it is time for me to thank them for another successful year.

First, our very dedicated teaching staff and the non-teaching staff. The Board of Governors, Simon Hinchliffe and the Senior Leadership Team. Thanks also to Friends of Clock House who have been invaluable working behind the scenes for the success of all the events, which have occurred this year, and for their advice and support. A very special thank you to Julie Reilly who keeps me on the straight and narrow. Finally, thank you to parents and grandparents. You understand what you want this school to do for your children, and that is why we greatly value your opinions and suggestions.

We must congratulate Miss Smith and Mr Brook who quietly got married to each other this school year – we wish them every happiness for the future. Miss Hughes will be getting married over the summer and will be returning as Mrs Robertshaw-Hughes and we offer her our congratulations.

Perhaps another lesson that school teaches us is how to deal with change. Nothing stays exactly the same for ever, even though Bradford Grammar School can trace its history back to the mid-sixteenth century and beyond, it clearly isn't the same school as it was then. Special people come into our life and sometimes they leave it.

We are saying goodbye to Elanor Rawlinson who joined us as a newly qualified teacher back in 2009. During her time here, we have seen her develop into an excellent classroom practitioner, celebrated her wedding and joined in her experiences as a first time mum. We wish her happiness and enjoyment for the future. And of course this is also time for me to bid farewell to our Year 6 pupils. I would like to wish them all success and happiness for their future. Always remember our school motto, Hoc Age.

Before I finish, I would just like to add my personal vision of how this school can best help our children develop into successful individuals. I believe each and every child should leave Clock House with skills for life, a thirst for knowledge and an inquisitive mind, emotional robustness, wellbeing, resilience and tolerance for all. The school should be a solid foundation for each child to be a good citizen with a fulfilling life. Every one of our children leaves with a sense of self-worth and a sense of belonging – and perhaps above all, friendships and happy memories.

Finally, let me leave you with a quotation from one of our most famous and successful Old Bradfordians. David Hockney is one of the most influential living British artists, known for his achievements in a number of artistic fields, from painting, draughtsmanship and printmaking to stage design and photography. He has won lots of awards and titles including Companion of Honour and the Order of Merit from the Queen. When asked about inspiration and ambitions he said:

"The mind is the limit. As long as the mind can envision the fact that you can do something, you can do it, as long as you really believe 100 percent."

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

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

Kerry Howes
Junior School Headmistress

Staff Leavers



Alice Smith

By G Jones, Director of Sport
(Clock House)

As a netball coach Alice worked at BGS for two years and had a huge impact on both the sport and the players which she worked with.

Her enthusiasm, passion and energy for the sport, coupled with her empathetic manner and high expectations brought the best out of her squads. In her short time, Alice assisted in leading the U16s to National Finals in 2017 and took her U14 squad to 3rd in the regional finals in 2018. Alice's fresh and up to date knowledge has been appreciated by staff and pupils alike. We were delighted that she accompanied the seniors on tour to Australia last summer where all of her assets brought a unique quality. Alice leaves us to complete her final year of a degree in Sports Science and to concentrate on her playing career. We would all like to thank her and wish her luck.

Andy Galley

By O Rogers, Director of Sport & S Hinchliffe, Headmaster

Andy taught a number of different sports over the years at BGS. Clearly, rugby is a great love of his and Andy most recently shared his experience and enthusiasm for this sport with the U13 team who enjoyed a fabulous season under his instruction and care.

Following the recent introduction of Hockey to the boys, Andy encouraged and supported students to pick up a stick and develop new skills.

During the warmer months, Andy's passion for cricket remained undimmed. This was evident each year during the annual U13s cricket tour to the South West. He was also a stalwart supporter of the Cross Country programme over the years, helping to organise fixtures and encourage our athletes to train hard. In the past Andy taught A Level and had a positive impact on students who went on to take sports related courses at University.

He occupied the roles of Acting Director of Sport and Assistant Director of Sport and was a trusted and effective Sixth Form tutor who ably supported his tutees, providing expert guidance at this vital time in young lives. The relationships that Andy fostered with a number of former pupils stands as a testament to his approach to life at BGS and the many years he has given to the school.



Bob Page

By P Watson, Mathematics Teacher

A local boy, Bob fell in love with mathematics while at Aireborough Grammar School going on to read Pure Maths at Warwick University.

With a career in education in mind, he completed a PGCE at Liverpool University in 1982. However, before taking a teaching post he continued his passion for maths by completing a master's degree at Leeds University in 1983. For the next six years, he developed his considerable skills as a teacher at Lawnswood School in Leeds. Drawn by the delights of independent education, he then began his long service at Bradford Grammar School in 1989.

Bob's professionalism and pastoral skills were quickly recognised by the then Headmaster, David Smith, and he was quickly promoted to Head of First Year in 1990 and then Head of Lower School in 1993. Under the new headship of Stephen Davidson, Bob was then further promoted becoming Director of Studies from 1999 until 2014. It was in this capacity that I first met Bob, during a gruelling interview, and I was immediately struck by his rigour and enthusiasm for our craft. There are few who are genuinely interested in the definition of a parallelogram or the merits of resolving forces versus Lami's theorem. Certainly, we all benefitted from his wisdom, attention to detail and sense of fairness in his roles as Senior Teacher, Data Manager, Cover Manager and lately Head of Mathematics.

Bob also contributed hugely to the wider life of the school, with a particular passion for cricket and 26 years of commitment to the second XI including three major tours and six minor. Indeed travel is something of a passion for Bob and he has managed to support no less than 13 battlefield trips not including the one he has signed up for next year. He is also a fan of golf and squash as well as finding time to be a driving instructor with the Institute of Advanced Motorists.

We will certainly miss Bob in the Mathematics Department, not least because of his integrity as well as his wicked sense of humour but also his rather less than straightforward holiday homework challenges. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with such a gifted mathematician and an outstanding teacher. Humble, honest and hardworking, Bob epitomises the school motto of 'Hoc Age' – a true schoolmaster. We wish him a long and happy retirement, and thank him for all that he has given to the school over the last 29 years.

Angus MacNab

By D Proctor, Head of Chemistry

After 10 years at the school, Angus has decided to leave us and continue his career at Ermysteds.

During his time at the school, Angus was a first class professional and has held many roles of responsibility. He was a form tutor, master in charge of Year 8 rugby as well as coaching U13, U15 and U16 sides. When asked what the highlight of his coaching career was, he said it was winning the Warwick schools seven-a-side Shield with his U13 side, who up to this point hadn't won a game all year. Besides delivering high quality chemistry lessons, Angus, over the years also taught in the Biology and Physics Departments, which demonstrated his all-round abilities as a teacher of the sciences.

In a pastoral capacity, Angus has also delivered a full range of PD lessons to Year 10. Without a doubt, we shall all miss him in the Chemistry Department, no one has given more time and effort into helping those students who find difficulty understanding the subject, not a day has gone by when there hasn't been a queue of students wanting to see Mr MacNab for help. At the other end of the scale, Angus was instrumental in setting up and running a course designed to stretch and challenge our most able Sixth Form students. Finally, I would personally like to thank Angus for everything he has done for the Department, the School, but most of all for the pupils here at BGS. At least now, someone else might stand a chance of being voted teacher of the year by the Sixth Form!



Staff Leavers
continued ...



Bryan Townsend

By O Rogers, Director of Sport & S Hinchliffe, Headmaster

Bryan has been a trusted and much loved figure at BGS for a great many years.

His first passion, namely waterpolo, has been clear to see. Regardless of the age or ability of students, Bryan has time and time again demonstrated the expert skills, experience and charisma to enthuse young athletes in the pool. They played hard, but always fairly, for their coach. Swimming teams have been key parts of the school sporting calendar and everything from regular galas against local schools to national competitions have been enjoyed by all from Clock House through to the Sixth Form. Building links with other schools to help create a programme of fixtures was key to keeping students interested and motivated in the water and Bryan's personal warmth and friendly nature no doubt helped BGS to build relationships externally.

Bryan was instrumental in teaching BGS students how to swim. This life skill remains extremely important to all who have passed through the pool, also building confidence and forging friendships. He developed the students' knowledge in life saving skills, helping to make them responsible and skilled young adults. It is true to say that regardless of ability in the water, Mr Townsend always managed to enthuse and support students to gain confidence, develop technique and enjoy being active in the pool. Bryan made a difference to many young lives at BGS.



Charlie Linfield

By O Rogers, Director of Sport & S Hinchliffe, Headmaster

Charlie served the BGS Physical Educational and Games Department for 28 years.

During that time, he undertook a number of leadership roles including that of the Head of Rugby and Head of Tennis. With respect to the latter, Charlie had success building a programme of tournaments across the North of England providing young players with opportunities to showcase their skills in well-organised, regular competitions.

Charlie also served on the Inter-School Tennis Association (ISTA) Committee helping to organise and promote the National ISTA tournament at Eton College. Throughout his time at BGS, Charlie was always able to raise money, showing great skill as an entrepreneurial fundraiser, to help support tours for numerous sports, again giving opportunities to students to experience a sporting life in exotic locations beyond the school gates. Tours travelled the world; however, South Africa was a favourite venue to which BGS returned for a number of years. Charlie's friendly and compassionate approach will be long remembered at BGS by those whose lives he touched through his teaching and long service.



Chris Newsome

By K Howes, Junior School Teacher

Chris joined the school in 2009 as an experienced Junior School teacher and immediately took on the responsibility of Year 5 Form Teacher.

He was an energetic and charismatic classroom teacher who made lessons fun and enjoyable for the children.

Chris brought many skills to the school and through his own personal interests and talents, he quickly became involved with teaching and coaching of several of the sports. He willingly gave up many weekends and evenings in order to attend the various fixtures and to offer his support to the children. He made a significant contribution to the sport at Clock House and inspired many children. Chris was also involved in the Senior School Sports and coached many teams.

During his time at the school, Chris helped in all areas of school life and was always willing to get stuck in where necessary. He played an important part in the extra-curricular activities, educational visits and the residential trips.

Chris was always happy to help fellow teachers with advice and support and he was a valued member of the Junior Leadership Team (JLT), where he helped to develop and embed both the science and maths curriculum.

From Bradford Grammar School, we would like to take this opportunity to thank Chris for his support and assistance which he gave and the staff and children who knew him wish him all the best for his future.

Elanor Rawlinson

By N Watson, Junior School Teacher

Elanor joined the school in 2009 as a newly qualified teacher from Leeds Met.

She very quickly threw herself in to school life and in no time at all had established herself as a truly dedicated teacher who had a real passion for teaching English, history and philosophy. The latter of these three loves, philosophy, she developed in to the first Clock House philosophy club, 'Broad Minds', where the children could often be overheard enthusiastically discussing the finer points of current affairs, philosophy, ethics and the latest Pixar release.

With a real passion for books, (which Elanor says stems from her childhood and her father naming her after Elanor Gardener, a J.R.Tolkien character), Elanor enjoys helping to guide the children to the perfect reading book. She offered a real insight into the best choices as she had read many of the titles in the Junior School Library. Not only did Elanor have a passion for reading books, she relished any opportunity to get dressed up as her favourite book characters.

As the long winter nights drew in (or as December quickly approached), Elanor could be found beavering away on the latest script for the Clock House Christmas production. She used her passion for religious studies to ensure her scripts were not only entertaining but also informative and accurate.

Being an advocate of educating the whole child, Elanor has been fully involved in the School's co-curricular programme of activities. She has accompanied the children on countless school trips and residential visits and thoroughly enjoyed leading the Year 5 Newlands Valley trip to the Lake District. She delighted in giving many of the children their first taste of gorge walking, abseiling and nights away from home. She also led many sporting teams, including rounders, netball and hockey in Year 4, enabling many of the girls to experience their first fixtures.

Elanor has been a very popular member of the staff, both with our pupils and their parents. A nurturing and dedicated teacher, she always strived to instil confidence in her pupils and she taught with great enthusiasm and empathy; pupils had great respect for her. She demonstrated a keen sense of fairness and will be missed by all. We wish her well in her new venture as she leaves to spend more time with her husband and young son.





Emma Stokes

By C Bruce, Head of Drama

Emma Stokes joined us in January 2016 as a maternity cover for the Drama Department.

She took on 'Grease', helping to make it a hugely successful production. During her time here, she also directed Year 13 students in an original play, 'Everyone Should Have a Gun', and supported Sixth Form students through their practical exams. Thanks to Emma for her hard work. Her creativity and expertise will be missed.

Hannah Wong

By F Handbury, Head of Geography

Hannah Wong joined Bradford Grammar School as a Newly Qualified Teacher of Geography in 2009.

She joined at a similar time to two other young Geographers and they quickly became a tight-knit team. After nine years of diligent work, she leaves this summer to spend more time with her young family.

As a classroom practitioner, Hannah always had the students best interests at heart and supported students of all abilities with great kindness. She delivered meticulously planned and varied lessons that held students' interest and were infused with her wide-ranging subject knowledge. Many students appreciated her calm approach, warmth and empathy and consider themselves fortunate to have been taught by her.

Under the expert guidance of Tim Bateson and Robert West, Hannah was promoted to Assistant Head of Higher Education. She worked tirelessly to ensure that students' university applications were of the highest standard. Her attention to detail, broad knowledge of university courses and efficiency ensured she excelled in this role.

Hannah's collegiality and friendship will be missed hugely. We wish her many happy days spent raising her young family.



Ian Findlay

By S Hinchliffe, Headmaster

Ian Findlay read Industrial Economics at the University of Nottingham and is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants. Before joining Bradford Grammar School, he worked in the printing and manufacturing industries, among others, as a Finance Director, and also at Coopers and Lybrand.

At interview, Ian, with characteristic modesty, described himself as 'a manager and team worker'. While both were evidently true, this description understated his many qualities and he went on to lead the whole of the support staff with distinction and was a trusted member of the Senior Leadership Team. Ian's steady hand has been a key part of many of the school's successes.

Ian was the Finance Manager before becoming the school Bursar and Clerk to the Board of Governors. As I mentioned at Speech Day, Ian understands that the School is bigger than any one of us and he has always given appropriate priority to our students and their families. The school has had no more loyal a servant.

As Clerk to the Board, Ian ably supported our Governors alongside being a full member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). The two roles required awareness of the important distinction between governance and management and he has balanced the roles with aplomb. Lady Morrison described Ian as 'a hugely valued member of the leadership team, equally at home leading all of the professional services while ensuring that the governance of the school ran smoothly and efficiently. Above all, Ian undertook all of his work with the utmost integrity and without ego'.

Manifestly, Ian is a man who has values and abides by them. With a keen sense of proportion, sound judgement and – perhaps unusual for a Bursar – good cheer, Ian devoted 15 years to the service of BGS. When asked, a close and long serving colleague said of Ian that he is "kind, canny and wholly supportive".

On a more personal level, I am especially grateful to Ian for the way that he welcomed me to the BGS community. Aside from a small amount of good-humoured ribbing about where the true North starts – he is immensely proud of his Carlisle roots – I could not have wished for a more supportive Bursar. I have even benefitted from the introduction to the City's various real ale pubs and eateries that he insisted formed part of my induction to Bradford.

Everyone connected with BGS will join with me in wishing Ian a long, healthy and happy retirement with his wife Sue. It goes without saying that they will remain valued members of the BGS family and we look forward to welcoming them back to many of the performances and special events in the future.



Ian Smith

By I Findlay, Bursar & Clerk to the Governors

Ian joined the school in January 2009 having spent all of his working life in the commercial sector.

He was a chartered Accountant with a vast wealth of experience from different sectors that he soon started to apply for the benefit of BGS. His expert management of the finances at BGS ensured that the school remained financially sound. His attention to detail was phenomenal and the financial data that he produced was always first class. Ian always felt that his "pessimism was legendary" but the reality was that he was just doing his job by being prudent, exactly what you want from the Finance Manager. Ian also managed the collection of fees in a very professional and firm, yet sensitive, manner with the result that the school has never had any significant fee issues during his tenure. He also refined the Assisted Places process, which like the fees ledger, he managed in an exemplary fashion. The Governors knew that with Ian in charge of the finances, the school was in a good position.

Outside of work, Ian has many other interests. He is an avid and loyal Leeds United supporter rarely missing any games both home and away. Such is his love for Leeds United that he even takes holiday to support them at places like Cardiff when the game is being played midweek. He also loves swimming, and was always in school early so that he could have a swim before the working day started. During the holidays, Ian organised the lifeguard cover so that a few committed swimmers could maintain their daily routine. His other great love is Northern Soul, he has a magnificent collection of vinyl records, he regularly DJs at northern soul gigs and often attends all night northern soul events.

Ian entered everything he did with great enthusiasm and gusto; we will miss him but know that he will be back as he has done in the past to share his love of Northern Soul with the pupils. Ian leaves with our heartfelt thanks and we wish him every success in the next stage of his career.



Julia Markham

By O Rogers, Director of Sport & S
Hinchliffe, Headmaster

Julia has a significant presence in the rowing community and her ability and experience on the river has been of great benefit to our BGS rowers over a number of years.

Julia is highly organised and models a calmness that has brought benefits to BGS rowing. Her experience of developing rowers is second to none and Julia attends to the fine details to get the best out of our athletes, as was evident during our successful BGS Concept 2 world record attempt.

Julia has been a fantastic role model and inspiration to the many who have taken up rowing, helping students to acquire and hone new skills they never thought they could possess. She has taken BGS rowing 'to the next level' with regular strength and conditioning sessions to help athletes gain greater levels of fitness and mental toughness. Her considerable and valuable experience at regattas supported students, regardless of their experience, to gain a real sense of achievement in competition. Many students have gone on to row at various levels after leaving BGS, a testament to Julia's openness to support and encourage all who are willing to try!



Marc Silverside

By S Hinchliffe, Headmaster

During his time as the Director of Communications, Development and Marketing, Marc Silverside helped Bradford Grammar School to make significant progress with external relations, marketing and promotional materials, including through the use of digital media.

The changes that Marc ushered in enabled BGS to present itself authentically and positively through a variety of channels, extending our reach and profile within the region and nationally.

Building on work that had gone before, Marc facilitated a wide consultation when BGS was considering its brand going forwards and which key messages to include, representing the modern school that current students and families know well. As before, we have moved with the times. Additionally, the dialogue that was fostered through consultation continues and both student and parental voice actively shape the current strategic direction and development of BGS. Perhaps Marc's biggest achievement was his contribution to the growing body of dialogue that characterises BGS and the various avenues of communication that are now in place to encourage engagement, tell the school's story and celebrate the activities and successes of our pupils.

Matt Barr

By K Meakin, Head of Classics

Matt joined the Classics Department as a Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT) in 2012, and learned the ropes so fast that by the time I arrived a year later he was already able to give help and support with most aspects of running the Department.

During his six years here, Matt ably served as Year 8 and Sixth Form form tutor, completed a part-time MEd at Homerton College, Cambridge, and for the last two years Assistant Head of Higher Education, earning gratitude from scores of pupils for his expert help with their university applications.

He has even found time to co-author optical character recognition (OCR) recent textbook on 'Love and Relationships', not to mention his performances with the staff rock band! Throughout all this, Matt was a truly inspirational teacher whose abiding aim was to share his love of Classics with the generations of students who have been in his classes or who have attended his ever-popular Classics Society meetings. Matt will be sorely missed by us all, but it is fitting that he leaves at the same time as his original Year 8 class, 8MAB of 2012, with one member of that class now heading to Matt's former university to read Classics.



Staff Leavers
continued ...

Nicole Nicholas

By D Proctor, Head of Chemistry

After 14 years at the School, Nicole decided to leave us and continue her career at Clitheroe Grammar School.

Nicole is a caring and committed teacher who was well liked and respected by the pupils she taught. She held many roles of responsibility during her time at school. She was a form tutor, she helped coach netball and hockey sides and was a much valued member of the Duke of Edinburgh (D of E) team and could often be found supervising bronze groups in and around Brimham rocks. For many years, Nicole held the position of second in the Department.

She excelled in this role, running the science club, being in charge of the IGCSE schemes of work, she ran the Department outreach program, organising and supervising numerous trips and competitions. In addition to teaching chemistry lessons, Nicole over the years also taught in the Biology Department. We have all missed Nicole since her departure. She will be remembered for helping students, selflessly giving up her free time to provide both support and reassurance. I would personally like to thank Nicole for everything she has done for the Department, the school and for the pupils at BGS.



Sarah Ball

By L W Hanson, Head of English

Sarah initially joined BGS in the summer term of 2003 as a student teacher.

She had actually secured a job to work here from September of that year, taking over from Phil Lawrence, and the then Head of Department, Tony Johnson, asked her if she would like to complete her final Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) here as an induction to the School.

From the start, Sarah was ready to participate in all aspects of teaching English, but it soon became apparent that she was the 'Queen of Drama' and it is possibly in this area that Sarah has added such lasting value to the education and lives of students. She was involved in and directed and produced a very large number of productions including 'Grease', 'Oliver', 'The Little Shop of Horrors', 'Return to the Forbidden Planet', and two that stick out in my mind, 'Whistle Down the Wind' and 'Under Milk Wood'. As well as big school productions, Sarah also guided many edgy and controversial scripts created by A Level Drama and Theatre Studies students. Sarah always allowed students to push the boundaries of their talent with skill and did this with subtlety and a high degree of professionalism. To see the Year 12 and Year 13 practical drama assessments has always been a highlight of the year for me.



Stephen Davis

By S Haslam, Head of Modern Languages

Stephen came to BGS in 1991 after lectureships at Leeds and St Andrews Universities.

Initially, he taught French and German as well as Russian, but after six years decided to go part-time to pursue a parallel career in examining. He has been chair of AQA A Level and recently chief examiner for Cambridge Pre-U as well as PE for Edexcel A2 Speaking. Many of his former pupils have gone on to study Russian at university and to use it as part of their careers, and many still stay in touch with Stephen and remember their BGS Russian days fondly.

Stephen's contribution to BGS does not stop at Russian. In the 1990s, he led four memorable trips to Russia while it was still relatively cheap and safe and subsequently he accompanied many other visits to Germany, France, Austria and Spain. For six years, he was in charge of the German exchange to Hofgeismar. He worked very hard over many years organising the departmental Open Day café, enjoying wearing a selection of culinary headgear and café t-shirts year after year. As well as this, he made a significant contribution to music, as a recorder teacher and leader of the Clock House recorder group and the Early Music Group. He was MD for several school plays and his groups performed in many concerts in the Senior school and Clock House.

Stephen is a committed trade unionist, keen to speak up whenever and wherever he sees injustice, and keen for the school's staff to be valued for their immense contribution to school life in all its many guises. There are, I know, a number of colleagues who are immensely grateful to him for his support as the school's National Association of Schoolmaster Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT) representative. He is also both a committed Scottish nationalist and European who will, in time, be returning to his native Scotland to continue the fight for the European cause. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Stephen for his valuable contributions over the years and to wish him well for the future, wherever his travels and work take him.

When David Stokes retired in 2007, Sarah took over as Head of Drama and alongside Tony Johnson, she established a vibrant and creative Drama Department that nurtured and developed young talent. The status Drama now has at BGS is in no small part due to Sarah.

As well as teaching and directing Drama, Sarah was also for many years the President of the Theatre Visiting Club, taking over from Peter Palmer. In this role, she tirelessly accompanied students to a range of venues across the region enabling them to see high quality theatrical productions.

Beyond the theatre, Sarah also coordinated A Level English language and played a prominent role in the wider extra-curricular life of the Department accompanying students on trips to destinations such as Grasmere, London and Stratford-upon-Avon. More recently, she helped run our school newspaper, 'The BGS Bugle'.

Leaving the school, Sarah will work on new projects and devote more time to her young family. Time spent with children when they are young is time well-spent and time one can never get back.

Thank you ...

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

Majid Khan
Teacher of Design Technology

Katie Priestley
Hockey Coach

Dawn Cartwright
Teacher of Biology

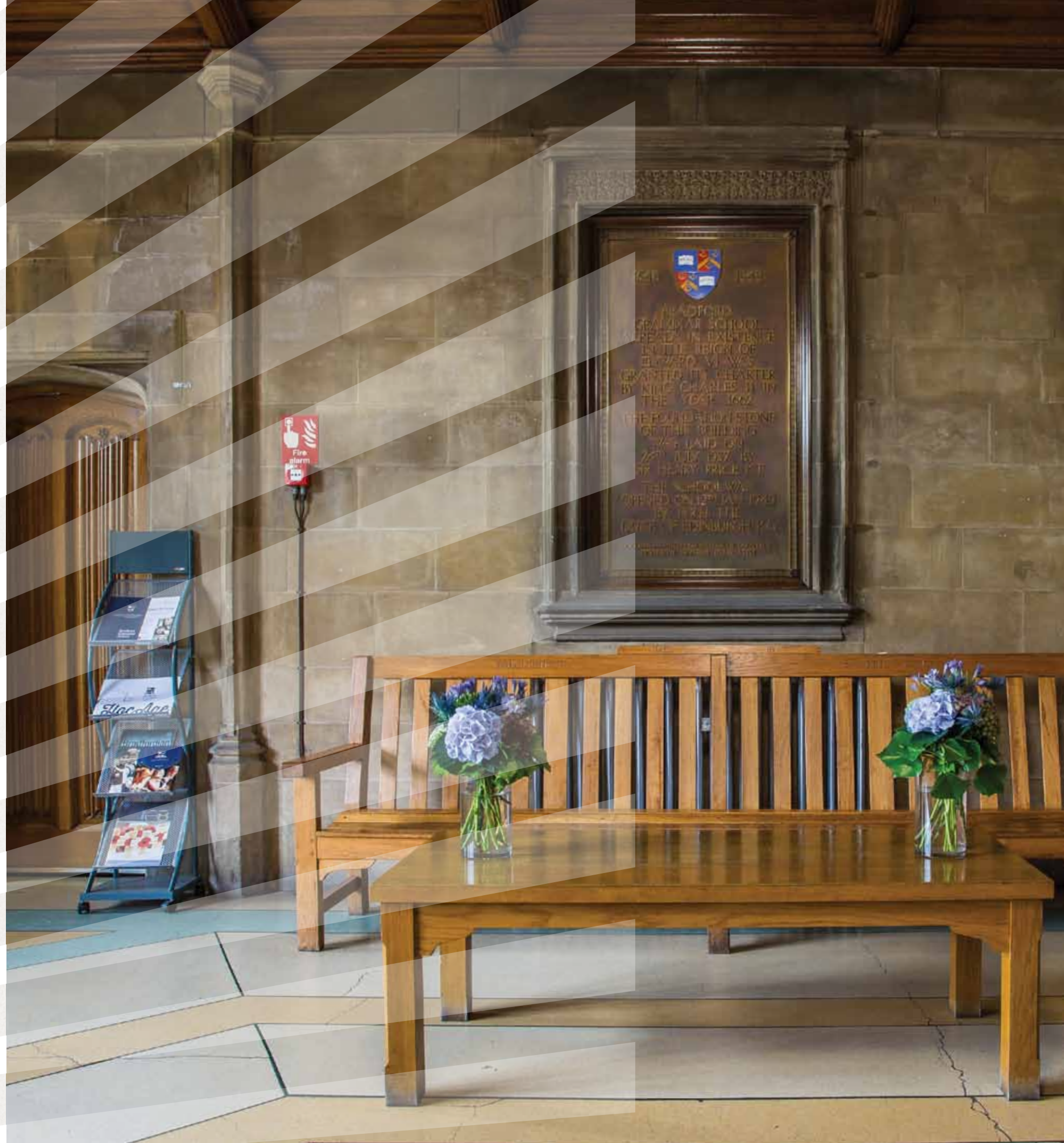
Ben Hollis
Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages

Georgia Cotter
Teacher of English

Suzanne Doyle
Teacher of Politics

Belen Rodriguez-Rubio
Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages

Megan Watkins
Teacher of Religious Studies



University Degree Course Admissions 2018

A

Ibrahim Muhammad Abdullah	The University of Birmingham , Dentistry (5 years)
Phoebe Elizabeth Abruzzese	Durham University , Psychology
Euan Adam	The University of Nottingham , History
Haseeb Ahmed	Aston University , Optometry
Qudeer Ahmed	The University of Bradford , Chemistry (Medicinal Chemistry)
Dahlia Al-Jawad	The University of Birmingham , International Business (4 years)
Charles Andrews	Nottingham Trent University , Business Management and Economics
Kirandeep Kaur Athwal	The University of Birmingham , Dentistry (5 years)
Muhammad Saad Azam	The University of Bradford , Social Sciences and Management with Foundation Year

B

Elisha Ameneh Francis Baranian	Loughborough University , Industrial Design and Technology
Laura Rose Barnett	The University of Nottingham , Biology
Hugh Patrick Barrett	The University of Birmingham , Economics
Alexander William Lewis Bellamy	Northumbria University , Geography and Environmental Sciences Foundation Year
Hugh Berry	The University of York , Economics
Gregory Bertrand	University of Leicester , Management Studies
Harnek Singh Bhogal	Lancaster University , Business Economics (Industry)
Christopher Neil Bradshaw	The University of Huddersfield , Business Law
Daniel Brennan	UCL (University College London) , European Social and Political Studies (4 years)
Zoe Emma Briggs	University of Newcastle upon Tyne , Politics
Alexander Charles Broadbridge-Kirbitson	Durham University , Classics

C

Joshua Floyd William Haydock Carey	University of Bristol , Mechanical Engineering
Jonathan Casson	University of St Andrews , Medicine
Oliver Croudson	The University of Birmingham , Dentistry (5 years)
Emma Catherine Cunningham	The University of Birmingham , English

D

Leon Luciano Dammone	The University of Birmingham , Modern Languages (4 years)
Lauren Jessica Day	The University of Nottingham , Psychology
Lewis Day	University of Newcastle upon Tyne , History
Louisa May Duncan	The University of Birmingham , Classical Literature and Civilisation

E

Mohammed Ismail Ellam	Lancaster University , Engineering (Study Abroad)
William James Elmore	The University of Birmingham , Economics
Erin Can Erturan	University of St Andrews , Computer Science

F

Syeda Manahil Fatima	The University of Manchester , Medicine
Daniel James Field	The University of Nottingham , Chemical Engineering including an Industrial Year
William Fitzpatrick	University of Newcastle upon Tyne , Business Accounting and Finance (includes business placement) (4 years)
Zachary Flavell	Cardiff University , Spanish

G

Josiah Adoniah Guiste	The University of Birmingham , Chemistry with a Modern Language
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H

Sana Hafeji	London School of Economics and Political Science (University of London) , Environmental Policy with Economics
Nicholas Hague	The University of Birmingham , International Relations with Economics
Lily Rebecca Harrison	The Manchester Metropolitan University , Accounting and Finance (Foundation Year)
William Harrison	The University of Birmingham , International Relations with Year Abroad
Samim Haya	Anglia Ruskin University , Medicine
Callum Jay Haynes	UCL (University College London) , Mathematics
William Hopper	The University of Manchester , Economics
Victoria Howarth	University of Leeds , Mathematics

J

Adam Jabbar	University of Leeds , Mechanical Engineering
Leah Amrit Johal	The University of Warwick , Biological Sciences

K

Ellie Kehoe	The University of Birmingham , Philosophy, Religion and Ethics
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L

James Lathom-Sharp	The University of Birmingham , Policy, Politics and Economics
Jemima Martha Lee	The University of Nottingham , American Studies and History
Thomas William Liu	The University of Birmingham , Economics
Miles Peter Leonard Loney	The University of Nottingham , Mechanical Engineering
Benjamin Thomas Longfield	University of Oxford , Chemistry
William Lucas	The University of Warwick , Politics and International Studies

University Degree Course Admissions 2018
continued ...

M

Alexander John Macfarlane	The University of Birmingham, Civil Engineering with Industrial Experience (4 years)
Raheem Yousef Hannan Mahmood	King's College London (University of London), Philosophy, Politics and Economics
Mohammed Masoom Makda	University of Leicester, Accounting and Finance
Alexander James McCash	The University of Sheffield, Biology (3 years)
Eleanor Jane Moorhouse	The University of Birmingham, Modern Languages (4 years)

N

Emily Nicholas	Bradford College, Primary Education with QTS
Amaara Noor-Mundiya	The University of Huddersfield, Psychology

O

Phoebe Ogden	Northumbria University, Design for Industry
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P

Charles Pdraig Partridge	Apprenticeship, Apprenticeship at Kennedys
Harry Patterson	University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Marketing and Management
Amy Peacock	The University of Birmingham, Medicine (5 years)
Charlotte Pascale Pickard	University of Newcastle upon Tyne, International Business Management with Placement
Ellie Rebecca Pinder	The University of York, Social Policy – Crime and Criminal Justice

R

Hamish Rae	The University of York, History
Zeishaane Raja	The University of Bradford, Foundation Year in Engineering
Roisin Ellen Ramage	The University of Birmingham, Modern Languages (4 years)
Anya Rasodha	Queen Mary University of London, Hispanic Studies and Comparative Literature
Hannah Rawnsley	The University of Birmingham, History
Rachel Jane Rayner	University of Leeds, Spanish
Henry Reed-Purvis	The University of Nottingham, Politics and International Relations
Asim Rehman	The University of Manchester, Pharmacy
Saaqib Riaz	The University of Bradford, Optometry
Kate Victoria Murphy Robertshaw	University of Cambridge, Classics
William Robert Robson	Durham University, Physics

S

Laura Jade Scales	The University of York, Psychology
Ben Edward Scholefield	University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Computer Science with Industrial Placement
Jack Sedgwick	The University of Manchester, Classics
Niamh Rhianna Sedgwick	Northumbria University, Foundation Year in Business
Naiha Sharry-Khan	University of Leeds, Medicine
Harry Sherwood	University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Economics and Business Management

Jack Sherwood	The University of Liverpool, Geography
Jem Shvitiel	The University of Liverpool, Accounting and Finance
Mahnour Siddiqui	The University of Bradford, Optometry
Madeleine Elizabeth Silberberg	University of Bristol, Engineering Design with Study in Industry

William Felix Smith	University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Economics
Abigail Spencer	University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Combined Honours
Brandon St Catherine	Durham University, Anthropology and Sociology
Henry Felix Joseph Stonelake	The University of Nottingham, Medicine

T

Beatrice Charlotte Taggart	University of Cambridge, Modern and Medieval Languages
Sayedta Umayah Tahsin	University of Leeds, Computer Science (Digital and Technology Solutions)

V

Barnaby William Vaughan	University of Oxford, Classical Archaeology and Ancient History
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W

Sylvie Beth Walsh	Nottingham Trent University, Education Studies
Rupert Piers Walton	Durham University, Geography
Thomas Michael Wardale	The University of Edinburgh, Mechanical Engineering
Amelia Websdale	University of Leeds, Healthcare Science (Audiology)
Fiona Western	University of Leeds, English and Philosophy
Sarah Tresillian Whitelaw	Cardiff University, English Literature
Harry Williams	The Manchester Metropolitan University, Politics (Foundation)
Robert Williams	Birmingham City University, Business Management (Enterprise)
Daniel James Windle	Durham University, Modern Languages and Cultures (with Year Abroad)
Benjamin Wood	University of Cambridge, Engineering

Y

Sophie Chun Yan Yung	University of Surrey, Veterinary Medicine and Science
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Z

Nasik Zahir	University of Leeds, Medicine
Taha Zamir	The Manchester Metropolitan University, Business Management (Placement)
Emaan Zia	King's College London (University of London), History

Examination Results 2018

General Certificate of Education (A Level) 2018

A

Abdullah IM	Biology [^] , Chemistry A, Philosophy ^{^*}
Abruzzese PE	Biology [^] , English Language [^] , Psychology [^]
Adam EC	History ^{^*} , Mathematics, Physics
Ahmed Q	Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science
Al-Jawad DAMM	Business Studies, Mathematics, Psychology
Andrews CJ	Economics, Geography, Mathematics
Anwar MMU	Further Mathematics ^{^*} , Mathematics ^{^*} , Physics [^]
Athwal KK	Biology [^] , Chemistry, Spanish [^]
Azam MS	Biology, Psychology, Religious Studies
Azfar TA	French [^] , History, Philosophy ^{^*}

B

Baranian EA	Fine Art ^{^*} , Business Studies, Design & Technology ^{^*}
Barnett LR	Biology [^] , Chemistry, Mathematics
Barrett HP	Chemistry, Economics [^] , Mathematics [^]
Beckett LAS	Biology [^] , Chemistry, History [^]
Bellamy AWL	Business Studies, Geography, History
Berry HGW	Economics, Mathematics, Philosophy
Bertrand SH	Business Studies, French, Geography
Bhardwaj GK	Biology [^] , Chemistry ^{^*} , Mathematics [^]
Bhogal HS	Business Studies [^] , Economics [^] , Mathematics
Boyle M	French ^{^*} , Latin ^{^*} , Mathematics [^]
Bradshaw CN	Business Studies, English Language, History
Brennan DJ	Geography ^{^*} , Philosophy ^{^*} , Spanish [^]
Briggs ZE	Economics [^] , Philosophy ^{^*} , Psychology

C

Carey JFWH	Further Mathematics [^] , Mathematics ^{^*} , Physics [^]
Casson JB	Chemistry [^] , Mathematics [^] , Physics [^]
Chaudry HO	Chemistry [^] , Latin [^] , Mathematics [^] , Spanish [^]
Chowdhury MWR	Biology [^] , Chemistry, French
Croudson OJ	Biology ^{^*} , Chemistry [^] , Mathematics [^]
Cunningham EC	Biology, English Language ^{^*} , Geography

D

Dammone LL	History [^] , Russian ^{^*} , Spanish [^]
Day LJ	English Language [^] , History [^] , Psychology
Day LM	English Language, History [^] , Music Technology, Russian
Desilva TA	Biology, Chemistry, History
Dobson CIK	Fine Art [^] , Psychology
Duncan LM	Classical Civilisation [^] , Philosophy ^{^*} , Psychology [^]

E

Ebert-Laurie LS	Chemistry [^] , German [^] , Mathematics [^]
Ellam MI	Computer Science, Mathematics [^] , Physics [^]
Elmore WJ	Chemistry, Economics [^] , Mathematics [^]
Erturan EC	Computer Science [^] , Further Mathematics [^] , Mathematics [^]

F

Field DJ	Chemistry, Mathematics [^] , Physics
Fitzpatrick W	Chemistry [^] , Mathematics [^]
Flavell Z	History, Philosophy, Spanish
Forrest-Ritchie SLT	Fine Art [^] , Classical Civilisation, Philosophy

G

Guiste J	Biology [^] , Chemistry [^] , Mathematics, Psychology
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H

Hafeji SY	Geography [^] , Mathematics [^] , Philosophy [^]
Hague NJ	Economics, Mathematics [^] , Philosophy [^]
Halmshaw HR	Business Studies, English Language, Psychology
Harrison LR	Business Studies [^] , Economics, Mathematics
Harrison WTG	Economics, History, Philosophy [^]
Hasnat A	Biology [^] , Chemistry, Psychology
Haya S	Biology ^{^*} , Chemistry [^]
Haynes CJ	Computer Science, Further Mathematics ^{^*} , Mathematics ^{^*} , Physics [^]
Heaton IA	Fine Art, Classical Civilisation, English
Language	
Hopper WP	Biology, Economics [^] , Geography [^]
Hussain MA	Philosophy
Hussain MA	Business Studies, ea, Psychology

K

Kehoe EC	English Language, Psychology, Religious Studies [^]
Koenig-Gimeno FP	History, Mathematics [^] , Religious Studies

L

Lathom-Sharp JD	Chemistry, Economics [^] , Mathematics [^]
Lee JM	Classical Civilisation [^] , History, Psychology
Liu T	Economics ^{^*} , Mathematics [^] , Physics
Loney MPL	Further Mathematics, Mathematics [^] , Physics [^]
Longfield B	Chemistry ^{^*} , Further Mathematics ^{^*} , Mathematics ^{^*} , Music [^]
Lucas WR	Fine Art ^{^*} , Classical Civilisation [^] , Philosophy ^{^*} , Spanish [^]

M

Macfarlane AJ	Economics [^] , Mathematics, Physics
Madhas NDS	Biology, Chemistry, Economics [^]
Mahmood HZ	Biology [^] , Chemistry, Religious Studies [^]
Makda M	Economics, Mathematics [^] , Psychology
Marshall WT	Economics, Mathematics, Philosophy [^]
McCash AJ	Biology, Economics [^] , Geography
Moorhouse EJ	French, German, History
Muchimba CJ	Fine Art [^] , Psychology

N

Nicholas EV	Geography, Psychology
Noor-Mundiya AJ	Biology, Psychology, Spanish

O

Ogden PG	Business Studies, Design & Technology [^] , Psychology
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P

Partridge CP	Classical Civilisation, Geography, Philosophy
Patel RA	Biology [^] , Chemistry [^] , Mathematics
Peacock AL	Biology ^{^*} , Chemistry ^{^*} , Mathematics [^]
Pickard CP	Economics [^] , English Language, Spanish
Pinder ER	Geography [^] , Philosophy [^] , Psychology

R

Rae HW	English Language [^] , History [^] , Philosophy [^]
Raja ZM	History, Mathematics, Religious Studies
Ramage RE	French, Philosophy, Spanish [^]
Rawnsley HR	Geography [^] , History [^] , Philosophy [^]
Rayner RJ	Music Technology
Reed-Purvis HD	History, Philosophy [^] , Religious Studies [^]
Riaz SH	Biology [^] , Chemistry, Mathematics
Robertshaw KVM	Classical Civilisation ^{^*} , English Language ^{^*} , Greek A, Latin ^{^*}
Robson WR	Further Mathematics ^{^*} , History [^] , Mathematics ^{^*} , Physics [^]

S

Scales LJ	Biology A, Mathematics, Psychology ^{^*}
Scholefield BE	Computer Science [^] , Mathematics [^] , Physics [^]
Sedgwick JJ	Classical Civilisation [^] , Economics, History [^]
Sedgwick NR	Business Studies, Philosophy, Religious Studies
Sharry-Khan N	Biology [^] , Chemistry [^] , English Language [^]
Sherwood JS	Business Studies, Geography [^] , History
Shivtiel J	Geography [^] , Mathematics, Physics
Siddiqui M	Biology [^] , Chemistry [^] , Mathematics
Silberberg ME	Further Mathematics ^{^*} , Mathematics ^{^*} , Physics ^{^*}
Smith WF	Chemistry [^] , Economics [^] , Mathematics
St Catherine BTE	Economics [^] , English Language ^{^*} , History [^]
Stephenson IN	Classical Civilisation, Economics, History
Stonelake HFJ	Biology ^{^*} , Chemistry ^{^*} , Mathematics ^{^*} , Physics ^{^*}

T

Taggart BC	French [^] , Latin ^{^*} , Mathematics ^{^*}
Tahsin SU	Computer Science [^] , Economics [^] , Further Mathematics ^{^*} , Mathematics ^{^*}
Tetteroo-Smith PA	Biology [^] , Chemistry, Mathematics

V

Vaughan BW	Classical Civilisation ^{^*} , English Language, History [^]
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W

Walsh SB	ea, Psychology, Theatre Studies
Walton RP	Chemistry [^] , Geography ^{^*} , Philosophy ^{^*}
Wardale TM	Further Mathematics, Mathematics ^{^*} , Physics [^]
Websdale AJF	French, Physics, Psychology [^]
Western FE	Economics [^] , English Language ^{^*} , Religious Studies [^]
Whitelaw ST	Classical Civilisation, English Language, History, Theatre Studies
Williams H	Computer Science, Philosophy, Psychology
Williams RG	Business Studies, ea, Religious Studies
Wilson RC	Biology, French, Mathematics
Windle DJ	French ^{^*} , Philosophy ^{^*} , Spanish [^]
Wood BAJ	Further Mathematics ^{^*} , German, Mathematics ^{^*} , Physics ^{^*}

Y

Yung SCY	Biology [^] , Chemistry, Mathematics
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Z

Zahir N	Chemistry [^] , Computer Science [^] , Mathematics ^{^*} , Physics [^]
Zahoor MA	Biology, Chemistry, Russian
Zia E	English Language, History [^] , Philosophy

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

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Junior School



From the Junior School Headmistress

Crocodiles and comfort zones

'Are there crocodiles in here?'

It's not the average question we're asked at Clock House, but that was the burning thought on the mind of one of our Year 2 pupils as they took part in some canoeing on one of our residential trips recently.

As well as firing up the imagination and taking part in exhilarating activities, such as zip wiring and canoeing, there are so many more benefits to taking part in residential, such as the challenges our children face which are personal to them. They certainly bring opportunities to take them out of their comfort zones.

For an introverted, shy child, leading an outdoor task or being without a parent for the first time overnight might be a terrifying prospect. The challenge, for them, is to overcome that fear so they can embrace the confidence which comes from pushing themselves. You could see our children challenge themselves during another recent residential to Brimham Rocks, in North Yorkshire, when the children had to jump and scramble from rock to rock. Many said they didn't think they could do it, but they were encouraged to take a leap out of their comfort zone and gained a huge surge in confidence when they pushed themselves.

Pupils also gain confidence in being self-sufficient and responsible on school residential. As a society, we tend to do a great deal more for our children than previous generations. One of the ways a child can grow is to have the freedom of self-sufficiency, so on residential they have the responsibility of getting ready themselves, making their bed, helping to lay the dining room table or clear up. It's about thinking for themselves and working together in a team. For some children, the ability to make mistakes without judgement and freely explore learning can remain with them for the rest of their lives. There are also gains to be had by living in a different context, one where new relationships with peers, and existing ones, can be redefined.

The fun the children have on residential is plain to see. They are exhilarated and enthused. (Pupils on our recent residential remarked: "I've never walked on a mountain before – it's amazing!" and "No school trip can be better than this") But watching the children grow in confidence is one of my greatest pleasures in my role as Headmistress. Knowing that they're gaining everyday life skills such as resilience, decision-making and problem solving, which will stay with them for life, and that BGS Junior School had a part to play in that, comes a close second.

*You'll be pleased to hear there were no crocodiles in the Lake!



Arts and Performance

Sensational Spring Concert!

We love these photos of Shakespeare Rocks!

They capture the essence of what was such a fantastic production which all the pupils, staff and families thoroughly enjoyed. Well done everybody.



Community, Societies and Activities



Delightful DT

E Burke, Year 5

Design and Technology (DT) Club takes place in the DT room at 12:40pm on Tuesday lunchtimes.

Mr Smales, who runs DT Club had this to say:

Q: Why do you run the club?

A: It gives year 2 and 3 chance to do DT in addition to their timetable.

Q: Why did you start the club?

A: It prepares year 2 and 3 for using tools correctly and safely in DT.

Q: How do people benefit from this club?

A: It helps them learn new skills.

Q: Is this club a good opportunity for people to learn about DT?

A: Yes, because it helps them learn about safety in the DT room.

Various children who attend DT Club were also interviewed:

Q: Why do you enjoy DT Club?

A: You get to make fun things to keep and take home.

Q: Would you recommend this club to your classmates?

A: Yes because it is something new to try.

Q: What are you making?

A: A spinning sign for our rooms.

Overall, DT Club is a good opportunity for children to learn new DT skills to prepare them for DT lessons in Year 4.

Dramatic Drama Club

W Palmer, Year 6

This year is a very exciting year for the Junior School, as there will be a school production coming in spring 2018.

As a result, Drama Club is more popular than ever before. Drama Club is a vibrant and energetic club, which is held every Tuesday at 12:30pm.

It is run by Mrs Orviss, who states: 'A lot of children are very keen to practise their drama skills. I am always looking out for people to be in the school production. What is more, it is lots of fun for both myself and the children.'

Aspiring actor, A Appleton (6H) comments: 'I enjoy acting and making people laugh.'

Year 6 also has keen actresses such as Z Mahmood. She explained why she enjoys the club by stating: 'It is entertaining to be part of the club and you get to make people laugh!'

Overall, Drama Club is popular, exciting and fun; it is a perfect training ground for either a possible part in the school production or an interesting future career in acting.

Co-curricular activities at Clock House

Clock House offers a wide and varied range of co-curricular activities which usually take place during the lunch break.

All pupils are encouraged to participate in at least two different activities each week.

These include: art, athletics, board games, choir, computing, craft, cricket, cross country, dance, design and technology, football, gardening, guitar group, hockey, Lego, netball, orchestra, rock band, rounders, rugby, samba band, string group, swimming, table tennis, wind band, and many more!

Find out more >>

bradfordgrammar.com/junior-school/junior-school-activities

Sensational Swimming Club

S Temple, Year 6

Down at the swimming pool every Tuesday and Thursday lunchtime, Swimming Club is a must do for many and is run by Mr Smith with help from Miss Smith and Mr Townsend.

There are two groups: Mr and Miss Smith take the pupils who are good enough to compete in swimming galas and Mr Townsend takes the beginners.

Pupils can benefit from attending Swimming Club in many ways. Some of the Year 4 boys expressed great enthusiasm for the club with H McFarlane saying: 'Swimming Club is extremely fun to be part of. At galas it is a desire of mine to win but I understand we don't always win.' Mr Smith started Swimming Club because it is an interest of his.

Whether you are wanting to compete in swimming galas or just mess around in the water what are you waiting for?

Join Swimming Club today!



Gardening Club

E Crookes, Year 5

The club that just keeps on growing!

Every Wednesday, Mr Smith takes an excited group of gardeners up to the school gardens and greenhouse to see if anything interesting has happened in that week. They weed and tend the soil ready for planting time. Of course, it isn't just Mr Smith's garden; it is everybody's!

Gardening Club is really fun and a great opportunity for people who don't have much of a garden at home to learn about growing their own food. Enthusiastic gardener, A McMillan (5O) speaks highly of Gardening Club: 'I really enjoy learning to garden, especially because all my friends take part in Gardening Club too!'

As well as colourful flowers and interesting plants, the gardeners' focus is on growing things you can eat. Some things are grown outside, such as rhubarb which grows every year, and potatoes or beans, which the gardeners re-plant each year. In the greenhouse, you can find many different types of plants and even a few ripening tomatoes.

When they have finished a very green term, junior gardeners are lucky enough to take home some of the fruit, vegetables and plants they have grown themselves.

Remembrance poppies

In their Art lessons with Mrs Morley, Clock House pupils created their own individual poppies as part of remembrance of our veterans and in celebration of British Values.

Here are a few wonderful examples of the poppies on display in Clock House reception.



Community, Societies and Activities
continued ...

Go Wild!

W Palmer, Year 6

On Thursday 16 October, 'Wear It Wild' took place at Bradford Grammar Junior School.

Wear It Wild is a special day to raise awareness for endangered animals in aid of WWF (The World Wildlife Fund). On this day, pupils had to contribute £1 if they wanted to come to school dressed up as an animal of their choice.

Fantastically, the school did not disappoint! All of our Junior School pupils dressed up, including the teachers. Annabel (2S) stated: 'It's for a really good cause and I like how it helps animals.' Archie (6H) said: 'It's good to raise money for charity but also fun and cool to see other people's costumes.'

Thank you to all of the people who donated their money for a good cause and a special thank you to School Council for making this day possible.



Honourable Harvest Appeal

S Temple and E Burke, Year 6

Every year in November, as part of our annual Harvest Appeal, Clock House succeeds in producing phenomenal amounts of money to be donated to children overseas in desperate need.

The pupils bring in items to sell to the Senior School pupils and fellow pupils of Bradford Grammar Junior School to achieve this.

These items are often home baked or homemade. Pupils also create exciting games such as 'guess the teddy's name'. In addition, there is a non-uniform day to raise extra funds. Year 5 and 6 pupils sell their delicious delights on Thursday while Years 2, 3 and 4 sell theirs on the Friday.

The grand total of all the money raised is announced to the pupils on the Monday or Tuesday after Harvest Appeal. The total is often well over £100. The money raised, will be given to ActionAid to help the following children: Ronald Amodoi (Uganda), Leandra Faustino Hunguana (Mozambique), Rajpal Rajaram (India) and Shawa Seidu (Ghana).



A Lesson Long Ago

C Nattress and E Crookes, Year 5

On Tuesday 17 October, Year 5 took part in an extremely exciting Egyptian workshop.

As part of this experience, everyone had a chance to participate in some singing, acting and learn all about real ancient spells and prayers.

The pupils watched open mouthed as Matthew, our guest Historian, showed them the gory ways of how the Egyptians took out the slimy organs of the bodies and threw away the brain because they thought it was made of pure snot. In the afternoon, everyone sat down and settled to listen to a fascinating story about how mummification began and a few pupils were invited to act out the story. As a result, most pupils were grateful to have been born in the last decade and have left the depths of ancient history behind.



At One with Nature

C Nattress and E Crookes, Year 5

On 12 October, Clock House pupils were invited to visit the outdoor classroom at Bradford Grammar School, known as 'the glade'.

This was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to learn outdoors, helping them to focus, be more creative and have lots of fun using nature as their source of inspiration.

Whether it was describing the bark on a tree, making up sentences about the scenery or even pretending to be natural objects, everyone had an opportunity to learn outdoors. Libby (50) had this to say: 'It was so fun. We were able to explore the outdoors and find things hidden in the bushes, such as berries and interesting stones.'

Pupils and staff were so thrilled with the outcome that teachers intend to repeat this fun learning experience on a regular basis. Miss Marsden said: 'It was lovely to see our pupils taking ownership of their own learning in a new and exciting environment.'



Community, Societies and Activities
continued ...



Clock House Quiz Club Success!

L Marsden, Teacher and Academic Coordinator

On Tuesday 17 February, Clock House pupils demonstrated fantastic general knowledge and teamwork skills.

After weeks of dedicated practice sessions and tactical discussions, two teams of mixed age groups entered the National Inter-School Quiz Championship hosted at The Grammar School at Leeds (GSAL).

Clock House Team 1 consisted of Muhammad (Year 3), Eesa (Year 4), Arjun (Year 5) and Imaan Akhtar (Year 6). They fought off strong competition to score highly against lots of other schools including GSAL, Richmond House, Frobelian and Queen Elizabeth Grammar School. Clock House Team 2 consisted of Aarez (Year 3), Samuel (Year 4), Henry (Year 5) and Hannad (Year 6); they battled against the odds to achieve the highest overall total, subsequently qualifying by a clear margin for the next round of the competition achieving the status of 'General Knowledge Area Heat Winners'. This is a huge achievement, especially since only one team out of multiple teams qualified for the next round.

Samuel had this to say: 'I really enjoyed answering the questions, especially those related to flags and countries. My Mum came to watch too! The final is at the Houses of Parliament. It would be a dream come true to get there.'

A huge well done to all participants. We wish them well in the next round!

Fire, fire!

E Crookes and C Nattress, Year 5

On 8 January 2018, Year 5 listened to an interesting presentation from members of the fire service located in Shipley.

Pupils were invited to listen to information delivered by three professional fire fighters. Demonstrations included outlining the importance of wearing a seatbelt, the dangers of hoax calling, the misuse of the fire service and the essential need for planning an exit route in case of a fire happening.

Year 5 pupil, Clara, had this to say: 'I enjoyed the talk because we watched interesting videos and we were able to participate in demonstrations with our friends.'

All about Mr Smales ...

Mr Smales is a committed design and technology teacher, having taught at Clock House for over 20 years.

His dedication to his job and enthusiasm for both music and design technology (DT) have had an infectious effect on pupils over the years. During their Clock House careers, many pupils have made an array of impressive models in his creative and insightful lessons including robots, toy cars, clocks and jack-in-a-boxes.

His incredible wealth of musical knowledge and talent have inspired hundreds of pupils to take up musical instruments and perform in school concerts in the Price Hall. Our Junior Journalists were keen to interview the creative and musical man himself and find out all about his illustrious career, both before and since joining Bradford Grammar School.

Interestingly, James Galway inspired the music maestro to begin playing. Mr Smales found inspiration to teach DT from previously teaching music and giving talks to seniors; he then decided to teach junior pupils instead.



His incredible wealth of musical knowledge has inspired hundreds of pupils ...

Trips and Visits



Life in the Stone Age

W Palmer, Year 6

On 17 October, Year 3 pupils travelled with Mrs Watts, Mr Tomlinson, Mr Smith and Mrs Aziz to the Danelaw Centre for Living History at Murton Park, near York.

The trip helped them with their studies about the Stone Age which they had been studying in their history lessons. Upon arrival, the keen pupils who were roaring with excitement, were split up into groups to do the different activities that were on offer.

When asked whether it was a good experience, Jasmine (3W) responded: 'It was great! There were activities like hunting, pottery, grinding flour and gardening.' Sara (3W) explained how much she enjoyed it: 'It was good fun but hard work, especially when we had to grind the flour.'

A highlight for many pupils was ending the day with a story around a traditional open fire and having the opportunity to become part of a tiger tribe with tiger claw marks drawn on their faces.



It was great! There were activities like hunting, pottery, grinding flour and gardening.



Bradford Cathedral Visit

L Marsden, Year 4 Teacher and Academic Coordinator

On Thursday 2 November, Year 4 pupils visited Bradford Cathedral. Led by Education and Visitors' Officer Gillian Davis, the visit delivered on its promise to provide children with an opportunity to learn about this grand building through a walk and talk tour.

This was followed by a brief question and answer session with the Pastor, which proved to be both honest and insightful.

Pupils thoroughly enjoyed learning about signs and symbols around this historical building and also made a special mosaic which they were able to bring home with them as a memento of their lovely experience.



A Very Victorian Trip

E Burke and S Temple, Year 6

On Thursday 25 January, Year 6 set out for a day full of fun. Five minutes after arriving at the Bradford Industrial Museum, everyone was in full Victorian character.

The pupils were split into two groups, one of which went to the wool-making wing of the museum, and the other group went to the schoolhouse. The wool-making wing was all about how wool was processed through the stages from 'sheep to suit'. Meanwhile, the other group was in the schoolhouse, learning about what a Victorian school was like. Pupils were given books to write and draw in. The experience was very authentic.

Lessons included writing, drawing, observational and more. After lunch, the groups swapped and did the other activity for the last few hours of the trip. After the activities were completed, the groups met in the mini art gallery and reflected upon their trip. When pupils returned, it was raining, so they couldn't play Victorian games outside. Fortunately, they were able to play some of them inside instead.





Our Anglo Saxons Trip

E Crookes and C Nattress, Year 5

On Wednesday 21 February, Year 4 travelled back in time to participate in a 'living history' day out.

The venue for the trip, Murton Park, offers a range of educational services to schools including period specific, hands on activity days, all structured to offer a range of fully inclusive, outdoor learning opportunities.

As part of the experience, pupils were given the opportunity to engage in a range of historical activities based around the daily routines of Anglo Saxon life. One highlight for the pupils included sculpting individualised clay pots using traditional designs. Pupils also collected wood to make a fire, and later sat around it to listen to traditional tales such as the well-known story of Beowulf.

Year 4 pupils (and their teachers turned slaves) dressed up in traditional Anglo Saxon clothing and were armed with brightly coloured protective weaponry including shields and spears. Later in the day, historical actors staged a real life settlement invasion but well trained pupils managed to defend themselves against their enemies.

Based on the beaming, smiling faces at the end of the day, it was certainly a trip to remember!



Trip to Lotherton Hall

On Monday 5 March, Year 2 visited Lotherton Hall for a journey back in time to meet Florence Nightingale and find out about how and why she became a nurse.

Pupils were able to attend a special teddy bear hospital and learn how to become a trained nurse. A tour of Lotherton House also took place.

It would have been rude not to pay the resident penguins a visit while they were there!



Year 2 visit – The Piece Hall

E Crookes and C Nattress, Year 5

On Monday 5 March, Year 2 visited Lotherton Hall for a journey back in time to meet Florence Nightingale and find out about how and why she became a nurse.

Known commonly as an architectural and cultural phenomenon, The Piece Hall is a Grade 1 listed building and therefore a rare and precious thing for us to encounter. It is also one of the greatest survivors of the 18th Century.

Alongside Miss Smith and Mrs Tatham, Year 2 engaged with specially trained staff throughout the day and participated in a range of insightful and eclectic activities. These included the following: a cloth hunt; making Kersey (an old fashion woollen material); weaving fabric and subsequently soaking cloth in salty water. Some pupils also learnt how to disentangle fibres – a process commonly known as 'carding'.

Enthusiastic Year 2 student, Tommy, thoroughly enjoyed the trip and had this to say: 'I've never been on a trip like this before. I wish we could go again.'



Amusing Abbey House Trip

E Burke, Year 6

On Tuesday 24 April 2018, Year 2 went on an exciting trip to a Victorian house called Abbey House.

At Abbey House, Year 2 went to an ironing shop crammed full of interesting metal objects. Other activities included dressing up as Victorians, colouring in Punch and Judy puppets (and acting with them!) and fun show-and-tell sessions of Victorian artefacts. The trip was lots of fun for all the pupils, and informative for even the teachers!

'The colouring was lots of fun!' said one pupil. 'I enjoyed the dressing up the most, but it was all very fun!' said another.

Overall, the Year 2s had a very enjoyable time at Abbey Hall.

Rocks, rivers and so much more!

On the 11 April, Year 5 excitedly filed onto the coach and set off to Bewerley Park, an outdoor education centre located near Harrogate. Upon arrival, pupils and staff were designated the dormitories that they would be sleeping in for the next couple of days.

After satisfying ravenous appetites with a tasty picnic lunch, Year 5 were divided into their separate activity groups and told which teachers and instructors they would be led by for the next action-packed few days. Immediately afterwards, they were whisked away to their different coloured classrooms to commence planning their fun-filled activities which included: bush craft, canoeing, rock scrambling and a river study; this tied in nicely with the geography topic of rivers.

After their enjoyable activities, pupils were treated to a nice warm shower and a tasty meal before gathering in the meeting room for an active group quiz that involved running all around the centre. Soon after, the out-of-breath pupils trudged into the middle of the woods where they found a carefully made campfire, perfect for roasting marshmallows. After sampling several burnt and sticky treats, it was time to return to the cosy dining hall. Delighted, Daniyal was surprised to receive a homemade birthday cake, baked especially by the kind staff at Bewerley Park for his special day. Pupils were lucky enough to receive a slice of scrumptious birthday cake along with a warm, sweet mug full of delicious hot chocolate.



We departed with a collection of happy memories ...



Racing down the slopes of Risoul

S Temple, Year 6

On 24 March, pupils and staff set off to tackle the slippery slopes of Risoul as part of Clock House's annual ski trip.

On arrival, all 32 pupils had their skis and boots fitted; preparing them for a week of twists and turns on the exhilarating wintery slopes. Pupils attended ski school and worked hard to improve their skiing techniques and overcome personal challenges. It wasn't all serious though! During the evening, several exciting opportunities were on offer, helping to keep pupils entertained and sample exciting new things in the wintery climate ...

Dimanche

This was when the terrific town trail featured, which involved exploring the key landmarks of Risoul.

Lundi

This involved the appropriately named sensational snowshoeing (which is basically hiking up steep slopes wearing items like tennis rackets on your feet).

Mardi

Boisterous bum boarding came next. During this activity all pupils thoroughly enjoyed themselves, despite the playful collisions.

Mercredi

Something brand new and exciting known as crazy quingo (a mix between quiz and bingo) was a firm favourite amongst pupils.

Jeudi

There was something for those with a sweet tooth and a love of films on Thursday. Pupils were invited to design their own crepes and indulge in a marvellous movie night, when they watched the appropriately titled film 'Snow Dogs'.

Vendredi

On Friday, the evening activity was the enchanted luge. All of the pupils gradually climbed up the mountainside in the luge carts and then they came whizzing down to the end of the track. Most of the pupils screamed on all of the extremely sharp corners as it felt as if they were going to plunge far below into the deep snow.

On 31 March, the accomplished skiers and accompanying members of staff returned late at night from their exhausting French expedition, full of stories to share with their families.

Gratifying General Knowledge

E Burke, Year 6

Rival schools went head-to-head in the semi-final of the General Knowledge inter-school competition, hosted at Westville House School in Ilkley on Tuesday 1 May.

After months of practice, the successful team from the previous round were armed and ready to answer questions. Unfortunately, the fantastic four (Samuel S, Aarez A, Hannad N and Henry S) did not make it to the final, but they had an enjoyable day, answering some very challenging general knowledge questions and learning how to act under pressure.

The quick thinking quartet battled through the rounds and came joint fourth overall with three other schools. They were five points away from third place, losing out marginally to the overall victors, RGS (Newcastle).

Henry reflected upon the performance stating: 'I was proud to answer one question correctly, in particular, since no other team knew the answer.'

Miss Hughes commended the pupils on their superb performance: 'It was lovely to see pupils from across the year groups working together so well; they formed a strong team and I was very proud of their determination and positivity. The quiz was so much fun to take part in; I was on the edge of my seat all of the way through. Now we are looking forward to entering again next year.'

Events

Year 6 PHSE Charity Event

S Shastry, Year 6

On the morning of 6 February, Year 6 organised and took part in a charity event.

In their PSHE lessons, 6H, 6A and 6M each chose a charity they wanted to promote and nominated a group leader. They were set the task of creating all the activities and merchandise themselves with little help from the teachers.

The three charities were Diabetes UK, Stroke Association and Guide Dogs for the Blind. On the day, the pupils presented their findings to Years 2 and 3 in an effort to persuade them to vote for their charity. All the classes shared vital information, but there could only be one winner. The victor was Diabetes UK, promoted by 6H.



All the classes shared vital information, but there could only be one winner ...



NSPCC Number Day fundraising event

S Shastry, Year 6

On 2 February, Clock House pupils participated in a special annual event: Number Day. This is a fundraising event organised by the NSPCC (a charity that prevents child abuse and keeps children safe) to raise money to help children who are mistreated and neglected.

Number Day also promotes numeracy and encourages both teachers and pupils to partake in maths based activities in an extra special way. In celebration of this event, Clock House pupils and staff had the opportunity to 'Dress Up For Digits' and were asked to wear clothes featuring numbers on the front or back, donating £1 for the privilege. Some pupils went above and beyond expectations, dressing up as homemade calculators or dice especially for the occasion.

In their maths lessons, pupils took part in fun and engaging maths activities, where they applied their problem solving and reasoning skills to solve questions. A few examples of activities included treasure hunts, quizzes and maths mysteries. One form even opened up their own fictitious shop.

Year 6 maths mastermind, William, commented: 'Number Day was fun and I enjoyed creating my costume. It was worthwhile making the effort for such a commendable cause.'



Outdoor Learning Day

E Crookes, Year 5

On Thursday 22 March, Clock House pupils found a new way to learn while simultaneously staying active, healthy and having fun!

During 'Outdoor Learning Day', the enthusiastic pupils took part in many exciting things which allowed them to explore the outdoors away from the parameters of the classroom. Pupils became mathematical investigators by searching for obtuse, acute, straight and reflex angles; they also explored different areas of the playground equipped with protractors. 'Outdoor Science' involved making a skeleton out of stones, twigs, leaves and other natural objects.

Comparatively, 'Outdoor English' offered pupils an opportunity to write about the well-maintained garden using their five senses.

Year 6 pupil, Rose, had this to say:

'Outdoor Learning was so much fun. My favourite activity was the Blind Trail where we had to follow instructions from a partner while blindfolded. We really had to communicate with one another.'



Sport

Turbulent Table Tennis Tournament

S Shastry, Year 6

On 14 January, an inter-school table tennis tournament took place.

Eight Clock House pupils participated in the event.

Yusuf, William, Shishir and Alexander were in the boys' team while Evie, Holly, Evie and Melody formed the girls' team. There were seven teams in the boys' competition and three in the girls. The boys' team played exceptionally well and managed to secure a place in the semi-final.

Unfortunately, the team met their match in the next stage and were knocked out of the competition. The boys ended the competition in third place. The girls' team played excellently but were beaten by the other teams. Nevertheless, they went down fighting and showed super spirit.

Table tennis enthusiast, Yusuf R commented: 'I like playing table tennis tournaments because you get to play new people and even if you don't win you can improve your skills.'



I like playing table tennis tournaments because you get to play new people ...

Superior Swimming Gala

S Temple and W Palmer, Year 6

On Friday 19 January, the chosen swimming representatives embarked on a sporting day out to the John Charles Centre for Sport in Leeds.

Mr Smith and Miss Smith were the leading teachers for Clock House. The events were spread over the three age groups: U11s, U10s and U9s. Unfortunately, the representatives did not win any medals but cheered each other on; a reflection of their true Bradford Grammar School spirit. Commendably, Sophie came third in the 25 metres butterfly in a tight battle (there were only about three tenths of a second between third and first).

Due to their resilient approach, all of the team members swam their best and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. This result bodes well for future competitions.



Year 6 Sports' Tour

S Shastry and W Palmer, Year 6

On 14 March, Year 6 set off on an exciting journey to the Lake District.

On their way to the Youth Hostel in Hawkshead, they stopped off at Barnard Castle to take part in hockey and netball fixtures. The boys and girls played exceptionally well, exercising new skills they had learnt in school. After lunch, they left Barnard Castle and set off on their long journey to Hawkshead. When they arrived at the Youth Hostel, they were allocated to their rooms to unpack. After tea, the pupils went outside and played many enjoyable games in the dark.

The next morning, the pupils and teachers were very excited as they were going to visit a treetop adventure park known as, 'Go Ape'. The journey was longer than expected, but it was worth the wait when they arrived. Each pupil was equipped with a harness and they practised on a starter course. When they felt confident enough, the pupils moved onto a higher and more difficult treetop course. One of the most enjoyable sections of the course was the zip line due to the exhilarating thrill felt by most! On returning to the hostel, the pupils were weary and tired, but regained their energy for the evening activity (a quiz and bingo). After an exciting day, the pupils had a good sleep and were ready for the next day.

When the pupils woke up, they felt disappointed because this was the last day of their trip, but they still had some fantastic and fun activities to participate in. They packed their bags and set off to Lake Windermere for kayaking and paddle boarding. Unfortunately, the weather took a turn for the worse, the wind picked up and the lake was freezing.

After their amazing aquatic adventure, Year 6 departed to St Mary's Stonyhurst for a swimming gala. The pupils were divided into teams and competed in relay races. At the end of the gala, the pupils set off back to school.

After three days of fun, all of the pupils were exhausted but happy to be reunited with their parents again.



Brilliant Brownlee Triathlon

S Temple and E Burke, Year 6

On Tuesday 22 May, Clock House pupils, along with pupils from other local schools, participated in a fun non-competitive and inclusive mini triathlon.

This was organised by the Brownlee Foundation and delivered by the Triathlon Trust. It gave the children a chance to give triathlon a try and inspire them to get more active.

The mini triathlon was suitable for all types of pupils, whether sporty or not, and for all ages. The challenge was to swim around the pool, cycle or scoot for one or two laps and then finish off with a run for one lap of the track. Previously, the Brownlee brothers themselves have been at the event, signing medals and other items. To finish off the fun, everybody received a medal and a 'goodie bag' full of treats, irrespective of their finishing time.



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Arts and Performance



Arts and Performance

A quartet of distinction

Four pupils had remarkable success in music exams. Ruby Hendry, Leon Dammone, 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 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 said: '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 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 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 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.'

[Read more >>
bradfordgrammar.com/events](https://www.bradfordgrammar.com/events)



Theatre visits

This term our Drama and Theatre 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.



Music means
so much to me ...

John Scholey
BGS Student



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.

The Bingley Christmas Exhibition

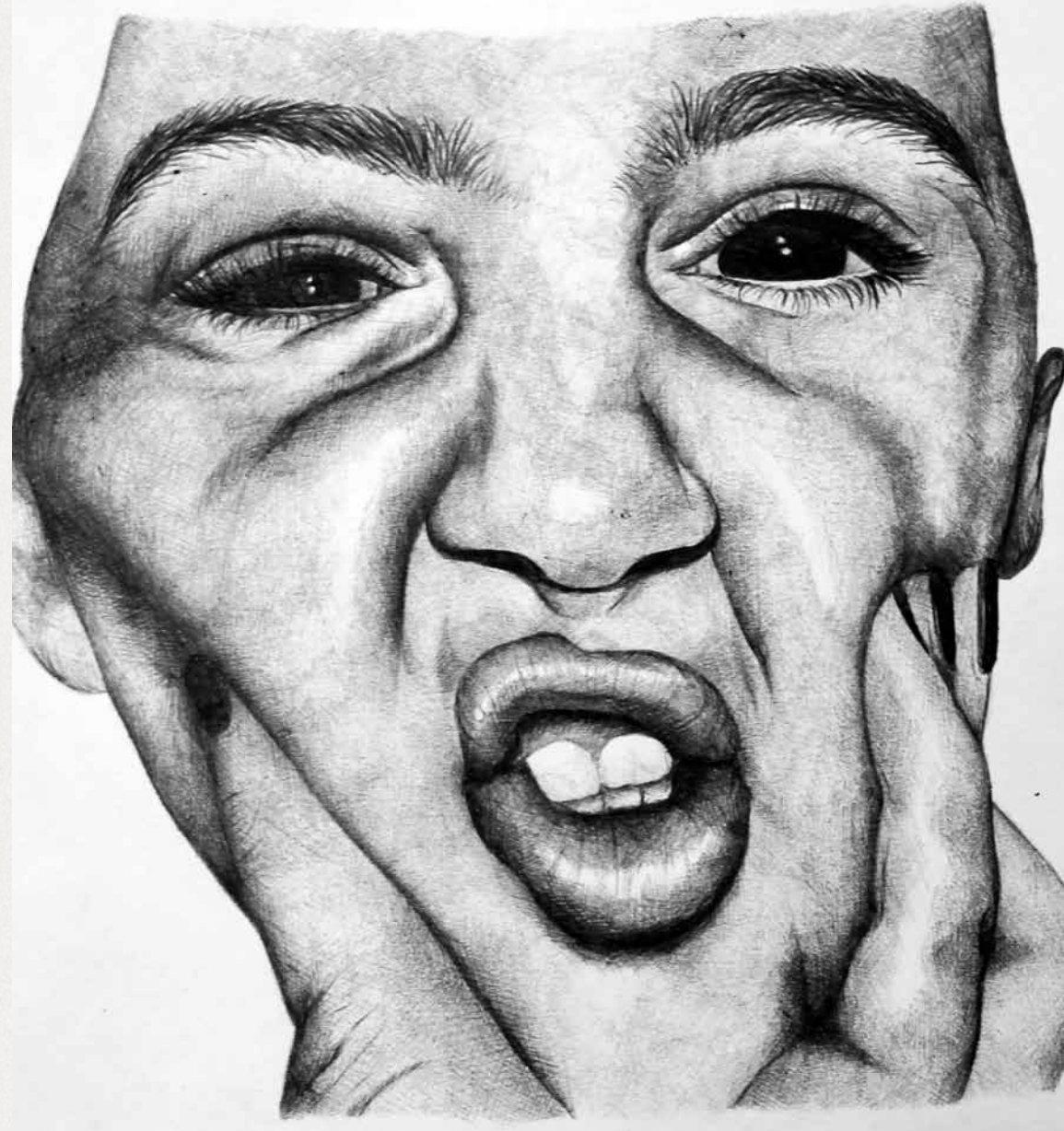
The Liversedge-based artist, Josie Barraclough is showed a selection of her most recent work at Bingley Gallery.

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 while 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 at Bradford Grammar School, itself famous for its close relationship with former student David Hockney.

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



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.





'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 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.'

[Read more >>
bradfordgrammar.com/news](http://bradfordgrammar.com/news)



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

Simon Hinchliffe
Headmaster

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.'

[Read more >>
bradfordgrammar.com/news](http://bradfordgrammar.com/news)

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, 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.'



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.'

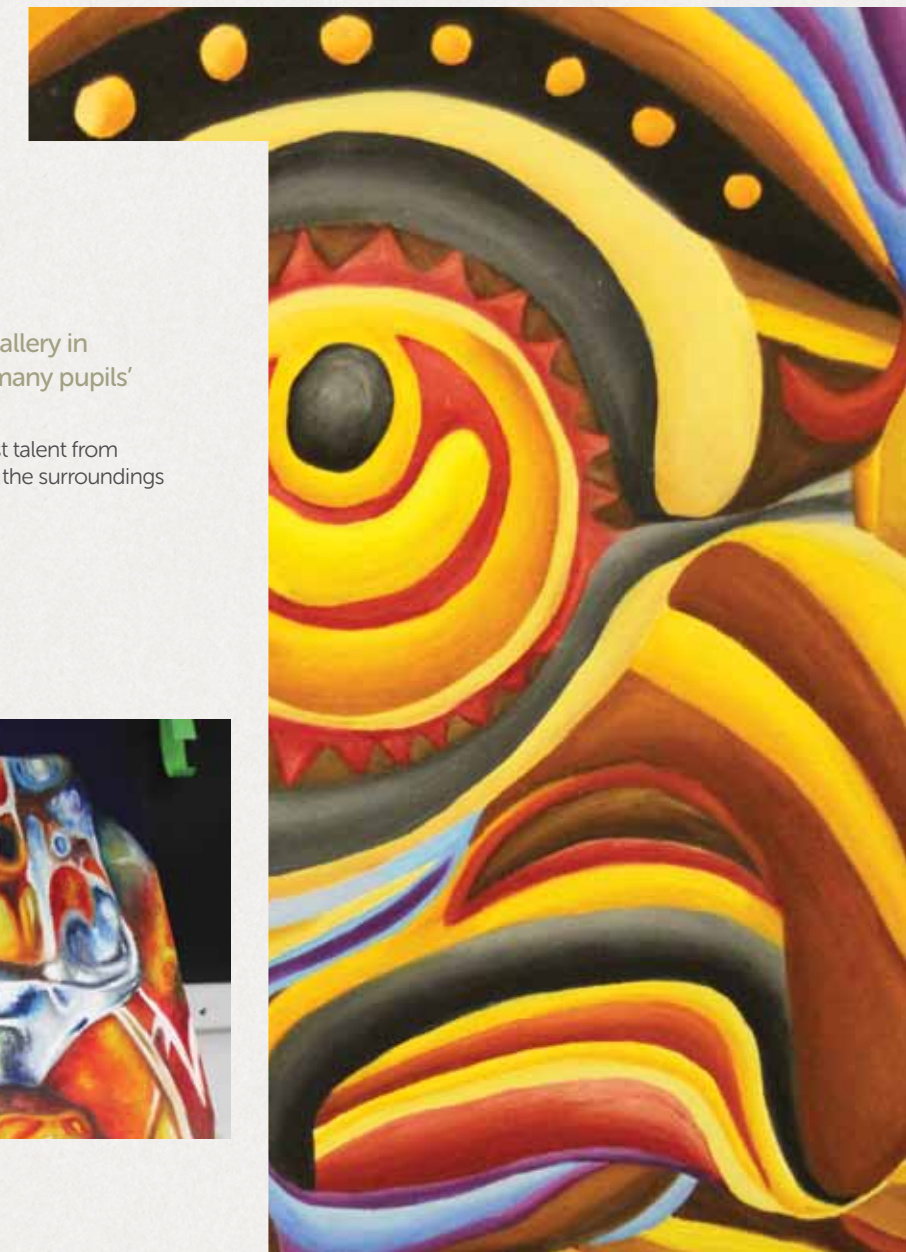
Josie Barraclough, BGS Head of Art, said: 'It is our ethos to work with schools throughout the district to share experiences, learn from each other and support the many communities that our pupils come from.'

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.'

Read more >>
bradfordgrammar.com/news

... 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



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



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Communities, Societies and Activities

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Communities, Societies and Activities

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. While 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

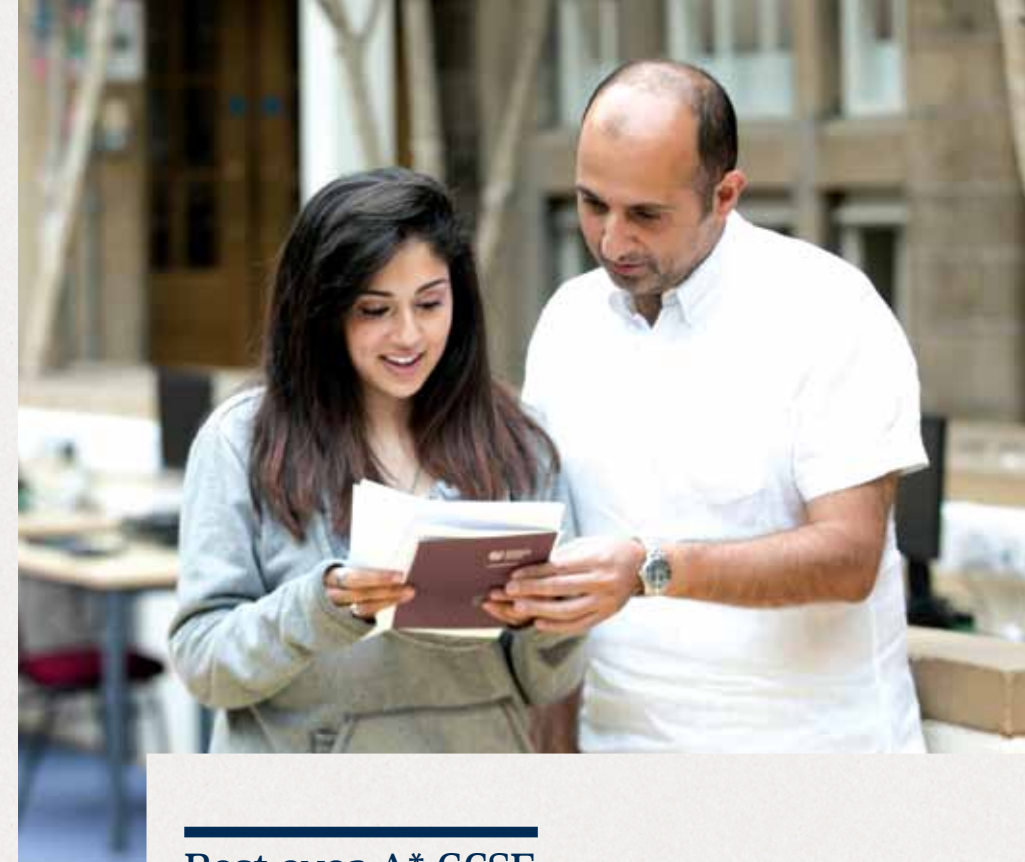
View the gallery >>
bit.ly/2fQBeE2



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.



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. The dynamic is right at BGS for encouraging everyone to be the best they can be. Pupils and teachers enjoy excellent relations, strive for excellence and engage actively in the process of teaching and learning. Lessons are lively, satisfying and designed to challenge.'

'There is no 'one size fits all' factory-style education at BGS, such an approach does not work. Fundamentally, success at BGS is built upon our shared values and ambitions. We are a cohesive, happy and purposeful community. Achievement is enjoyed by everyone however we define it individually for ourselves.'

'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

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

Simon Hinchliffe
BGS Headmaster



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 or Puma helicopter as part of the scenario.

Sixty places were allocated to the CCF nationally and BGS was 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 an excellent training ground for events like the hurricanes where they are currently using these aircraft for real. Who knows, next year it could be you?

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.

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

Among them, Gemma Fieldsend from the Charlie Waller Memorial Trust reminded us of the centrality of good mental health to overall wellbeing, while 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.

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.

Later in the year, another debating competition took place. It 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, scrapping Truth and Reconciliation Commissions and replacing them with criminal trials, was a forceful, carefully argued and well-constructed debate.



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, while 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 is 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.

Communities, Societies and Activities
continued ...



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!

From our Counsellor ...

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

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



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 conducted important research in an historic tea room, built by an Edwardian immigrant to the city of York. Research of a more sombre kind led 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'.

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

Our cybercrime fighters win through!

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

The team was 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 was an achievement in itself, but for one of our teams to make it to the national final in their first year of competing was 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.'

[Read more >>
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Our pupils get V.inspired for social action

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

More than 230 Sixth Form students 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, while 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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Enrichment

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.

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

Simon Hinchliffe
BGS Headmaster

Communities, Societies and Activities
continued ...

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.



Fashion show raises £7,000 for children's hospice

Pupils raised over £7,000 for a local children's hospice with a fashion show. The money will go to the 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.'

Read more >>
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Kitchen Confidence

This year we decided to reintroduce the 'Kitchen Confidence' course as part of the Sixth Form Enrichment Programme.

The aim of the course was to prepare students for life beyond Bradford Grammar School; teaching them the basics of kitchen budgeting, meal planning and the practical skills needed to prepare quick, easy and healthy meals on a budget.

Students had great fun learning the basic techniques and putting them into practice by cooking a range of tasty, but budget friendly, recipes, ranging from curry in a hurry and homemade naan bread, to the not so healthy scones and clotted cream.

The highlights of the course included very professional scotch eggs cooked by Maisie and Adam in Year 12 and a 'Great BGS Bake Off' competition in which pupils proudly presented Nutella brownies, homemade burgers and French toast.



Communities, Societies and Activities
continued ...



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.

Read more >>
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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.'



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

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Trips



Trips

Spanish culture in Barcelona

Year 9 pupils, accompanied by Mrs Cuesta, Mrs 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.



Washington DC

BGS students arrived at a 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 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.



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 Wieliczka 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.



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.



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.



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.

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.

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.

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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Trips
continued ...

German trip to Cologne

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

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.

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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.

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.



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



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.



Chateau 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 aéroball, 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 considered 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

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Events and Visiting Speakers



Events and Visiting Speakers

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!'



This has been our favourite open science lecture this year.

Danyal Akhtar & Henry Taggart
BGS Pupils



BGS celebrates Hockney birthday in style

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

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

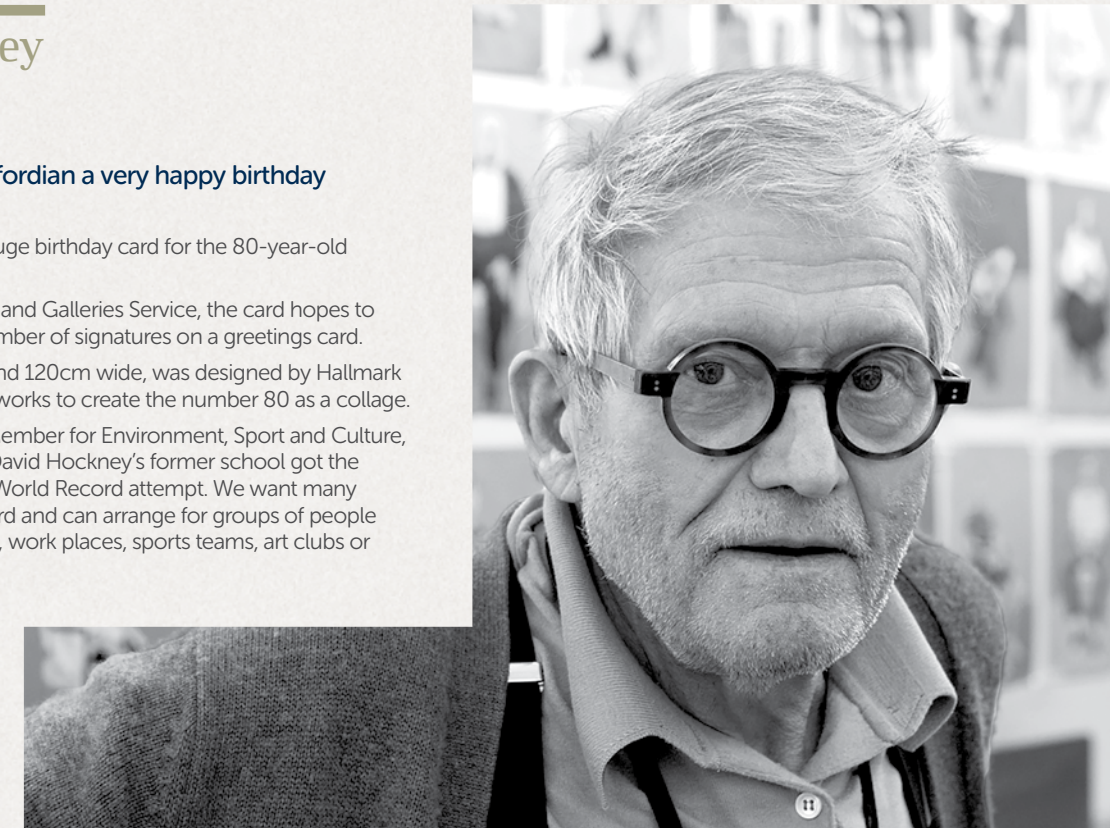
Part of a bid by Bradford Council's Museums and Galleries Service, the card hopes to break the Guinness World Record for the number of signatures on a greetings card.

The giant card, which is around 180cm tall and 120cm wide, was 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 filmmaker 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.'



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.



Events and Visiting Speakers
continued ...



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 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.

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.

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 wellbeing.

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.

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 within our local community, Yorkshire and nationwide.'

Read more >>
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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



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.

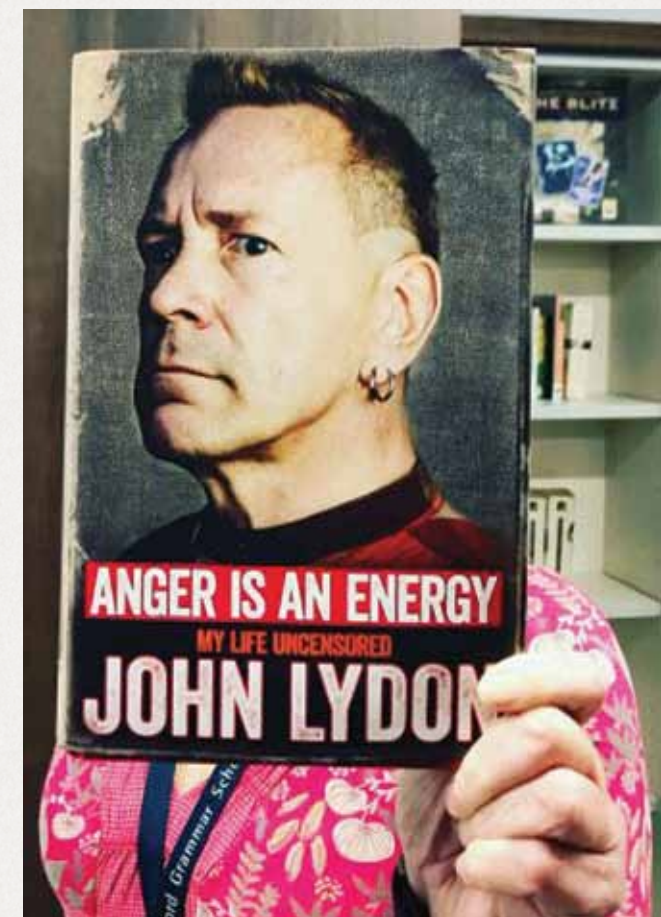
Tejvan was able to take time out from running his successful and heavily used website, Economics help, and cycle training (Tejvan was British National Hill Climb champion in 2013) to visit BGS for the first time in 25 years.



World Book Day

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

VIEW MORE >>
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Open Science Lectures

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 Dr Catherine Walsh (University of Leeds).

Pupil Evie, Year 8 wrote:

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 nebulae, 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 (1cm²) would have a temperature of 20oC, with the number of molecules at 10²⁵ (10 septillion) and a reaction rate of 10¹⁸ 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 -263oC, (10oC away from absolute zero, when atoms stop moving) with the number of molecules at 10¹⁰ (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

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



Volunteering with Age UK

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

The visitors all led such diverse lives; some were pharmacists, teachers and police officers. Each session opened with an engaging quiz, which helped 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 showed the fascinating contrast between the visitors in their youth and how we live in the 21st Century.



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.



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

Danny Lane
CEO, Music and the Deaf

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 was 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 stopped off at BGS and made a real impact on our students.'

'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.'

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.'

Read more >>
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Events and Visiting Speakers
continued ...



Rocket car race day!

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

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.

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.'

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

Emma Tomlinson
Head of Year 7



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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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!



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Sport

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Sporting Achievements

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

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I'm really excited, and I wish it came quicker so that I could start to train with them.

George Worthington
BGS Pupil



Pupil earns place with Yorkshire Carnegie

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.

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 just wish it came quicker so that I could start to train with them. 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 its 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 wellbeing.'

BGS Headmaster, Simon Hinchliffe, said: '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!'

School swim stars head to national championships

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

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, were 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.'



BGS sibling success!

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

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!

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.

George Worthington
BGS Pupil

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 saw 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.



ShIPLEY star has national Taekwondo glory in his sights

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 sharpens 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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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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Table tennis team hit UK Top 10

A table tennis team from BGS was 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.'

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 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.



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 playing the parents.

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



Pupils take part in Olympic Triathlon taster

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.

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 of 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.'

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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Sport

Cricket

By S Kellett, Teacher i/c 1st XI Cricket

The season started in freezing and wet conditions with a number of games being cancelled, and finished in red hot sunshine with scorched outfielders and pitches, more akin to Bangalore than Bradford.

1st XI

Although the results were mixed, the season had many positives, namely the outstanding all round contribution of Will Luxton who not only scored over 400 runs but also took 12 wickets and fielded like Colin Bland.

James Harrop, Adam Horrocks and Dan Brennan led the seam attack and at times bowled well, but possibly too many four balls, Will bowled, which resulted in a release of pressure for the opposition at crucial times.

The spin department is in a real position of strength with the emergence of leg spinners Aneeq Hamdani and Danish Haroon and several young finger spinners who will only improve.

On paper, our batting was our main strength, but due to a number of factors it never really fired. The core of Robbie Williams, Will Smith, Ollie Croudson and Charlie Andrews at times looked like class acts but never really scored runs commensurate with their ability.

I would like to give special mention to the above players and Dan Brennan, for their commitment to the club. They will be greatly missed.

My thanks also go to Matt Wilde for his enthusiasm organising players and helping with training. Also Glesni Jones, who scored efficiently and The Lord of BGS cricket, Andy Smith, who assisted with umpiring duties.

Roll on 2019.

2nd XI

By S Kellett, Teacher i/c 2nd XI Cricket

The 2nd XI season was successful in a number of ways; some good results mixed in with a great turn out.

The Year 12 boys were a revelation and harried by Mr Wilde, the attitude to training and playing was a real breath of fresh air.

As well as playing fixtures against established schools, we also arranged fixtures against Huddersfield New College seconds and Wisbech Grammar School second team, and the games were highly competitive.

Special mention must go to Mark Horsman in Year 11 who made himself available on most Saturdays despite all the exam pressure.

I am hoping that these boys continue to have the same levels of enjoyment next season and I'm sure that quite a few of them will be pushing for 1st team selection.

Also thanks must go to messers Rogers, Wilde and Oakes for umpiring on fixtures.

U14 XI

By R Skelton, Teacher i/c U14 XI Cricket

What a year! It started with a tie away at Pocklington and what a nail-biting game. The team really worked well together – things could only get better!

And they did. Our first victory of the season was against Woodhouse Grove at home and this was a very decisive win. BGS batted first displaying some strong batting performances from Ryan Welsh (24), Ben Grimmitt (25) and our very dependable middle order batsman, Finlay Kelleher (32). This strong performance resulted in 161 runs off 30 overs. Woodhouse Grove could not reply to the relentless damage caused by the bowling of Harun Muhammad (3-15), and Mohammad Rohaan (2-9). BGS won by 100 runs.

Our winning streak continued with a decisive win at The Grammar School at Leeds (GSAL). Full of action in the field with some spectacular catches from Nick Mehrgan and Jacob O'Connor, who also bowled magnificently throughout (2-16). We were able to bowl GSAL out for only 118 runs (off 30 overs). We replied with a convincing and winning batting performance from Joe Fitzpatrick (41). While wickets fell, Joe remained steadfast and was helped by Finlay Kelleher to secure the victory (winning by 5 wickets).

Queen Elizabeth Grammar School (QEGS) away game saw a gloriously hot day overshadowed by a commanding win by QEGS. They applied the pressure in the field from the start. Top order batsmen fell in the heat. Nick Miller tried to stick it out but failed to make a go of a partnership. Just 49 runs off 18 overs. Game lost by 9 wickets. However, this defeat did not dampen our spirits! Against Royal Birkdale, we displayed prowess in the field. Great keeping from Archie Horsfield with a stumping and catches, and Ben Grimmitt's commanding bowling performance (3-12). Royal Birkdale scored 102 runs off 20 overs. We replied with a better batting performance from our top end. Finlay Kelleher 25* hit the ball really well and powered us to victory, winning by 6 wickets.

Approaching the end of the season we were faced with two strong teams. Hymers College at home was a tough challenge. Our batsmen really struggled against strong bowling, however, Jacob O'Connor braved it out and managed to score 22 runs. Our reply was not strong enough (losing by 8 wickets), but we showed great spirit in the field to the end. Ben Grimmitt bowling well (2- 31).

St Peters at home was an even greater challenge, although Mr Skelton enlisted the help of a number of U13 players. St Peters batted first with Sturdy scoring 84*, resulting in 157 for 3 off 20 overs. A tall order. With plenty of encouragement from Mr Skelton, we stuck it out to the very last ball (and indeed all batsmen were out on the last ball of the game). We only managed to score 116 off 20 overs, however, Mr Skelton was delighted with the determination of the team and was grateful for the excellent contributions from the U13s. Notably, Will Ogden (29) and, with a pleasing batting performance from Jacob O'Connor (20). They stuck it to the end and with dignity.

This year's Tavener's Cup competition was disappointing, having not played a game to get to the third round against Woodhouse Grove. They returned to BGS with a steely resolve that took us by surprise, beating us convincingly. Nevertheless, the Pocklington 6s competition was a real success and a great learning experience for all the cricketers, despite not being able to retain our winner's crown. What a great squad; has been a great year boys! I am sure next year will lead to even greater successes ...

U15 XI

By L W Hanson, Teacher i/c U15 XI Cricket

The 2018 season began very encouragingly with a fine win away at Pocklington. BGS won the toss and elected to field first. In breezy and nippy conditions the Pocklington batsmen never really got going and managed only 103 from their 25. For the first game, it was a sturdy performance in the field from the team and, although bowling was a little wayward, the boys did well. In reply, the total was reached in the eighteenth over achieved due to first-rate batting from Tommy Celik, 45 and captain Lawrence Wade, 40.

Our next fixture against Woodhouse Grove was not triumphant but the performance of Lawrence Wade was outstanding. He scored a beautiful 82 in the BGS total of 128. It was a knock of control, maturity and some elegant strokes, particularly off the front foot. Unfortunately, the bowling lacked control and the Woodhouse batsmen achieved the total for the loss of just four wickets. This defeat was followed by another against QEGS Wakefield a week later. Lawrence Wade again top scored with 36 in an inadequate total of just 96. It was a disappointing performance with the bat and QEGS wasted no time in chasing down the score for the loss of just one wicket. Again, the bowling lacked control with the boys failing to bowl to one side of the wicket and restrict the batsmen's scoring opportunities.

Our fourth fixture against Birkdale was a game that ended in high drama. BGS made 136 batting first and there were fine contributions from Aneeq Hamdani, 31 and Amrit Sharma, 41. Birkdale looked in control for most of their innings, but two lovely catches by Hamdani and then five straight run outs (yes five) meant BGS scraped the win by just three runs. The Birkdale batsmen went into panic mode, but credit must be given for a tremendous fielding performance by the boys. Another factor was staying calm when all about them, the Birkdale players were losing their heads.

The final two fixtures yielded a win and a defeat. The win came against Hymers. After setting a stiff target of (150-5), BGS bowled out Hymers for just 86 for an easy victory. Amrit Sharma, 38, Sufyan Mahmood, 33 were top scorers with the bat and there was a fine haul of (4-18) by Oscar Andrews. Sadly, the season ended with a reverse against St Peter's York. Again, wayward bowling was most responsible along with dropping St Peter's best batsman when new to the crease. He then went on to score 69 runs from only 37 balls. BGS batted first and set what always looked to be a low total of 121. Peters' knocked them off comfortably, due to the fast-scoring knock described above. This match taught the boys the vital lesson that chances must be taken when offered, especially when offered by the opposition's best player.

Overall, I was delighted with the boys' approach over the season and their enthusiasm. They played with commitment, energy and zest all through the season. I hope to see them represent the school at senior level in the future.

Tennis

By O Rogers, Teacher i/c Tennis

The girls' tennis programme continued to allow many girls to represent Bradford Grammar on the court throughout the season. All age groups played in some competitive fixtures and tournaments.

The boys programme was not as comprehensive as it had been in previous years. However, all age groups fielded teams against local schools, and in regional and national tournaments.

I would like to thank all the players who represented the school on the court and especially those who travelled to Eton for the Inter-School Tennis Association (ISTA) championships.

Boys Hockey

By O Rogers, Teacher i/c Boys' Hockey

Hockey was a new introduction to the Boys' programme this year.

All year groups had the opportunity to develop their skills in lessons, with the odd fixtures for U14s to the Sixth Form. The U12 and U13s had a modest fixture list that would allow them to showcase some of the skills they had been practising.

Both squads gave opportunities to over 30 boys each to represent the School in the new sport; a real testament to the boys openness to try new sports. They played local schools and represented the school in the in two Hockey festivals. The U12s did a great job against some stiff opposition. The U13s progressed through the first two rounds and finished 3rd in the North of England competition, beating Manchester Grammar in the 3rd and 4th play off on penalty flicks.

The highlight of the season should be beating Loughborough Grammar School in the cup. It was a fantastic game between two equally skilful sides keen to attack but feeling the pressures of cup games. Twenty minutes into the first half and the scores were locked at 0-0 with both teams missing chances. Will Ogden, Gus Muirhead and George Hahn combined three times in four minutes to change the course of the game with three clinical goals. The game finished 5-3 to BGS. What an intense game for all involved. The cup side went on to the quarterfinals of the National Cup only to be knocked out by the eventual winners.

I really hope that all the boys buy into the hockey programme again next year and enjoy further developing their skills on the hockey field.

Hockey

By R Camp, Head of Hockey

A great season for all hockey players at BGS, finishing with an overall winning percentage of 54.1 percent.

Fantastic achievements all round with nail-biting fixtures and exciting results to match. As my first exposure to hockey here at BGS, I could not think of better pupils and staff to introduce me to BGS life. Particularly the U15 squad, led by Antonia Robson, which has made my first year a memorable one. The year has brought many challenges, mainly the weather. However, the ever so determined BGS pupils were out training and playing no matter the forecast.

We hosted our first 'Christmas Hockey Fun Day' in December where pupils from junior and senior school gathered for a day of festive hockey fun, music and cakes. Followed later in the year by the 'Annual Hockey Fun Day', where pupils played against each other in boys v girls, pupils v parents and the 'Broken Hockey Stick Trophy' where the staff lost their title to a determined U18 side.

In total, teams have had a frustrating 29 fixtures cancelled due to weather. All teams have been dedicated to training and fixtures on a weekly basis, showing continued development throughout the season, with many being selected for West Yorkshire and Performance Centre squads. This year has seen an increase in hockey participation and an uptake in community clubs. Next year I hope that the success continues with our exciting new facilities.

1st XI

By R Camp, Head of Hockey

Lead by Amy Peacock, the 2017 to 2018 player of the season, the team has displayed strong performances, bringing determination and enthusiasm to every fixture.

Although the team is one of the most competitive at BGS, results didn't always go their way. A talented group of girls however, I do believe the number of losses may be down to the lack of training that a small majority couldn't attend due to busy school life, volunteering and other commitments.

Even though only one game was won, it was a thoroughly deserved win, beating GSAL (2-1) after some big losses. Special mention goes to Roisin Ramage who had a fantastic season as 1st XI goal keeper until her injury. The last game of the season was a nail-biting end to end game which resulted in a last minute goal from opposition Rishworth who took the lead (1-2).

Many happy memories have been made and I wish those girls that are leaving us the best of luck for the future.

1st XI Awards

Player of the Season **Amy Peacock**

Most Improved **Julia Cumberland**

Players' Player **Roisin Ramage**

U16 XI

By R Camp, Head of Hockey

A demanding year for the U16 squad, balancing studies with hockey commitments which some struggled to keep up.

An enthusiastic squad with many talented athletes, the girls have been well motivated by captain Alicia Cumberland, who has shown great leadership qualities. Although the squad only played five fixtures this season, this included three comfortable wins against Silcoates, St Bede's and Ilkley. A tough game against GSAL in January witnessed the team's strong transitional play in defence and great individual skills from Freya Bellamy and Izzy Moorhouse. Unfortunately, the game ended in GSAL's favour (4-3) after an end to end battle.

Player of the Season **Alicia Cumberland**

Most Improved **Freya Bellamy**

Players' Player **Zainab Yasin**

U14 XI

By K Priestley, Teacher i/c U14 XI Hockey

A hard working squad that has endured some truly awful weather during lessons and lunchtime practices, but they have stuck to their tasks and turned up fully ready to give it a go.

Miss Camp has added her own personal 'Boot Camp' fitness element to the lessons, which has really been of benefit. The team has spent a significant amount of time on exercises designed to challenge and improve the girls' decision-making on the pitch, improving match play significantly. I was bursting with pride at the way in which they played against GSAL towards the end of the season, where they played with a constant flow and energy showing excellent game awareness.

Overall, Saturday results could have been better, with two big losses before Christmas. However, they recorded two high scoring wins in January, including the game against GSAL. Disappointingly, we had a lot of matches cancelled which was unfortunate, and a shame for the girls to lose the match practise just as they were gaining momentum.

Several of the team have played up for the U15s and have boosted what is already a strong year group. In lessons they trained against the boys and at times really showed the boys how to play. Highlights have included watching Sophie Evans grow in confidence and skill as a goalie, Jasmine Madeley's 'roll and shoot' goal scoring technique, Ella Towns charging into the D at full pace, and Aisha Qureshi making tackle of the year on Natalie Griffith from Year 10.

Player of the Season **Grace Dawson**

Most Improved **Sophie Evans**

Players' Player **Lorna Nelson**

U15 XI

By R Camp, Head of Hockey

With a winning percentage of 53.8% across the season the U15s have had a great year. They have demonstrated some superb hockey throughout and have lots of examples of just missing out by small margins, struggling not with ability, knowledge or fitness, but consistency.

There are times where defensive play has been outstanding, but the goals just not going in and vice versa. When it has all come together at the same time we have looked exceptional, but consistency is key and something we will look to improve next year.

This season the U15s have lost five fixtures, though losing games is frustrating at times we have had to acknowledge the quality of the opposition. Our toughest opposition on a Saturday being GSAL away, which was a nail-bitingly close game. I was proud of the performance that day despite the loss with our girls fighting until the end. The same could be said of the National Schools competition where, despite not making it through the first round against Wakefield girls losing (2-1), we showed great determination and we played some of our best hockey.

At the start of the season we lost 1-0 to St Bedes at home, however after working hard on getting the ball out of defence over the year the U15's came fighting back to win their final away fixture 5-0 away to St Bedes.

I would like to thank all the girls for their hard work and commitment throughout the season, not only on the pitch but also off it; in training, being ambassadors for hockey around the school.

Player of the Season **Lucy Spencer**

Most Improved **Maeve Barrett**

Players' Player **Antonia Robson**

U13A XI

By K Priestley, Teacher i/c U13 XI Hockey

An extremely strong squad with great team spirit. The team started exceptionally strong, scoring 41 of their 87 goals in their first 3 winning fixtures and conceding 0 goals against Rishworth, Queen Margret's and St Bedes.

The girls were truly challenged and came across our toughest opposition in the form of the National Schools competition away to Cheadle Hulme. The girls lost due to lack of consistency and belief. Despite the loss, this was a huge learning curve for the squad with our girls going into the County tournament later in the season, playing some of their best team hockey, showing true BGS grit and determination, making me very proud.

As a squad the girls work well together and a huge focus has been perfecting short corner routines and long corners. Long corners will be a new challenge next year with more players and a bigger pitch, as well as increased fitness.

The girls finish the season with 66.7% winning percentage, losing only two games. Great season girls well done!

Player of the Season **Sarah Bradley**

Most Improved **Molly Barnes**

Players' Player **Scarlett Grange**

U13B XI

By K Priestley, Teacher i/c U13 XI Hockey

The U13Bs have been the most successful squad this year, finishing with the best winning percentage score of all BGS hockey teams at 75%, losing two and winning six. Only conceding 11 goals all season just shows the true strength of the defence.

At the start of the season we lost (3-0) to Stonyhurst at home, however the girls came fighting back the following week against a strong Ashville team but unfortunately couldn't keep them out losing (2-3).

However, the determination of the team watched them dominate against Silcoates, winning (6-0). Unfortunately, our games against St Bedes and Wakefield were cancelled due to the unpredictable Yorkshire weather, where I feel more well deserved wins would have been had.

Special mention to Lydia Robson, who has developed immensely this season and to Anna Reed-Pervis for her fantastic defending skills. Girls you have had a fantastic season, well done!

Player of the Season **Emily Harrop**

Most Improved **Lydia Robson**

Players' Player **Anna Reed-Pervis**

U12A XI

By K Priestley, Teacher i/c U12 XI Hockey

A fantastic first season for the U12A team, finishing with a winning percentage of 66.7% across the season, only losing one game.

Throughout the year the girls have demonstrated some fantastic skills and knowledge of the game which continued to mature during the season. They started on a high with a (7-0) win against Rishworth away; this had the team warmed up and ready to win their next game (2-1) against Queen Margrets. Unfortunately the weather meant many fixtures and training sessions were cancelled and frustratingly the team were unable to play six fixtures.

The U12As have scored 32 goals in total and only conceded 11, showing the strength of both our defence and attack.

A huge highlight for the team was playing away to GSAL in a nail-biting (2-2) draw, they showed the true strength and determination of BGS hockey.

After a disappointing loss to Ilkley in January (3-0), the team reflected and went away to their last fixture of the season to Sedbergh Prep winning (10-0), a fantastic end result were the squad showed true passion for the sport.

Player of the Season **Amelie Lane**

Most Improved **Eleanor Dawson**

Players' Player **India Burns**

U12B XI

By K Priestley, Teacher i/c U12 XI Hockey

A good first season for our U12B team with a winning percentage of 33%. Although that may seem low the girls have had strong performances, only losing one game early in the season.

Their first fixture against Queens Margaret's was an end-to-end battle finishing (3-3), they then went onto another draw against Stonyhurst finishing (1-1).

Unfortunately, our defence couldn't keep out Ashville who beat us (2-0) in November, after many cancelled fixtures and training sessions the B team came back fighting. The team worked hard on outlaying the ball from defence to finish the last two games 3-1 against Sedbergh prep and 2-1 against St Bedes. Well done girls, a great season with such a variety of players.

Player of the Season **Charity Clifford**

Most Improved **Aminah Noor**

Players' Player **Marium Butt**

Goal of the Year 2017/18 Natalie Griffith

Katie Priestley Recognition Award For Outstanding Contribution to Hockey

Bea Taggart

Captains 17/18

1st XI – Amy Peacock

U16 – Alicia Cumberland

U15 – Antonia Robson

U14 – Pippa Threlfall

U13 – Ellie Koral/Emily Harrop

U12 – Ellie Dawson/Charity Clifford

Captains for 18/19

1st XI – Milly Fewlass-Jones

U16 – Lucy Spencer

U15 – Amy Dixon

U14 – Sarah Bradley

U13 – Abhijna Shenoy/ Aminah Noor

Netball

By G K Jones, Teacher i/c Netball

The 2017 to 2018 season started for the seniors with a pre-season training and team building weekend.

1st VII

The first training session with the new squad started well, the moral high largely due to the enthusiasm of captain and vice – captain Ogden and Bertrand and the squad showing signs of gelling from the off.

After a team-building activity, at the Krypton Factor Assault Course, the squad were raring to go on our first fixture two squads from York City NC. Throughout the two games, individual skill and athleticism was clear to see, and despite fading towards the end, both games were won. Following the weekend, we identified areas for improvement: to be attacking centre pass set plays, communication in the defensive circle, and re-offering for the ball through mid-court and fitness.

The squad trained well for the week before our first Saturday fixture, a triangular versus Stockport and Newcastle Under-Lyme. Despite showing signs of being a new squad who hadn't yet nailed the set plays, the team played well in open play and grabbed a victory against Stockport, with Phoebe Ogden voted as player of the match. A theme which continued throughout the season. The second game against Newcastle U-L didn't end so successfully, as the shooting eye deserted us in the second half, and Newcastle's quick hands and short passes led to a tiring second half.

With valuable lessons learned we moved forward to the next two games against St Aiden's and Wakefield Girls' and took two more wins. Feeling we were on a roll, and with training going well it became clear that a key player for us, our talisman GS Bertrand was carrying a niggling ankle injury. With the knowledge of this and with National Schools' preparation in full flight we travelled to play Stonyhurst in a Wednesday afternoon fixture.

Whether many of our girls had under-estimated, a hardworking and highly competitive Stonyhurst team who's shooting was on point, or whether it was just one of those games, I guess we will never know, but in the first half we were terrible! On reflection the worst 30 minutes of netball the 1st VII played all season, the girls rallied and improved 2nd half as Ogden again led by example but it was too little too late, and definitely a wake up call.

With Wilmslow cancelling the next fixture we were straight into the 1st Round of the cup against Withington Girls in the next round. With home advantage and a good warm up preparation we were feeling confident despite the clear height disadvantage. From some of the worst netball at Stonyhurst to some of the best here, our girls really showed how they respond and re-group in adversity. The defensive set plays and individual pressure were fantastic as we forced Withington in mistake after mistake, unfortunately our lack of precision and a few unlucky calls at crucial points in the game left us two behind going into the final quarter and with the pressure on we couldn't quite get over the line.

This started a lull in the season as we failed to qualify for the next round of National Schools amongst class opposition, against which we didn't look out of place. In my absence, we took a big hit against Fallibroome Academy when Bertrand finally succumbed to her ankle problem and had to take necessary rest. Stopping the rot at this stage was important so not to let the season start to dwindle so early. This was achieved with a win against former BGS teacher Miss Bloomfield's Altrincham team, and followed with an excellent performance at home versus Cheadle Hulme where shooting was well on point, particularly in the final quarter, to get us coming from behind to secure a two goal win.

In the true nature of sport, from the high of beating Cheadle we hit the low of a bit of a thrashing from Grove, another game without a key player as Dobson nursed an injured shoulder. She was missed! Then back up again to our biggest win of the season v Queen Ethulberga's in the 1st round of the Independent Schools Netball Cup (ISNC) Plate.

Unfortunately the 2nd round game was lost in similar vein as the 1st round of the cup with BGS arguably the better overall team, but lacking the clinical finishing of St Bede's College. As is often the case with nothing major left to play for, the girls attention from February was largely dominated by their studies and the season lost a little impetus.

This group of girls however continued to wear the 1st VII dress with pride and represent school competitively and always with the correct spirit, none more so than at Sedbergh where they made me very proud. Huge underdogs going into the game, the weekend before mock exams, and with Dobson missing, they dug in to produce a good performance despite the loss; the measure of the team being that they produced their best play in the final quarter of the game after being dominated for three quarters they found a way to turn the tables.

I have very much enjoyed working with this squad, we have had lots of laughs and pushed each other both physically and mentally. I wish the Year 13 players all the very best moving forward.

Player of the Season **Phoebe Ogden**

Most Improved **Lydia Beckett**

Players Player **Zoe Briggs**

U16 VII

By G K Jones, Teacher i/c U16 Netball

Another great season for the U16 squad, which has consisted of, three teams all the way through from Year 7 to Year 11.

These girls have been an absolute pleasure to coach. Their enthusiasm, personality and work ethic has been magnificent and a blueprint for other BGS netball year groups.

The A squad are a group of hugely talented individuals for whom netball is a passion. Most of the girls play netball outside of school for clubs and academies and have notable personal achievements but when they come together to represent BGS as a unit they are outstanding, playing netball which is a pleasure to watch.

The highlights of the 2017 to 2018 season are wins against reputable and strong opponents Cheadle Hulme, Sedbergh, Hymers, Newcastle Under-Lyme, Stonyhurst and RGS Newcastle. In some of these games BGS looked a cut above. Even their three defeats at the hands of Grove, Stockport and Altrincham were close encounters. The biggest highlight however for me as a coach is the manner in which this squad play; always hard and competitive yet with flair, skill and the time to make decisions that is only afforded to top teams. My greatest regret is that this squad didn't make it through to National Schools', losing out to GSAL in the last minute of the County Round having held a lead at half time. Whilst the majority of this squad will be touring Australia in the summer and continuing in BGS colours next year, it is with great sadness that we lose the services of Millie Wadsworth, who has been an integral part of the success of the squad, as she moves on for her post 16 education: I would like to wish her all the best for the future.



The B squad are the BGS team of the season due to their unbeaten Saturday record, becoming Bradford Schools' U16 Champions, and their quality is testament to the strength in depth in this year group. In fact the closest encounter against U16B opposition was a (17-10) victory over Grove, I think it's fair to say in the rest of the games they have been dominant. It has been a good thing for these girls that they have faced 1st VII opposition in the Bradford Schools League as this has presented more of a challenge. Despite this they still recorded four wins and only two losses. Many of these girls have always had the quality to transition to A team netball and this season Ariana Galdins has proved this going from B to A squad seamlessly. Again, many of these girls will be coming to Australia and continuing to represent school as seniors but I know one or two will leave netball behind to pursue other talents and I wish them all the best of luck.

Finally, the C squad. Despite only having had a handful of fixtures the C squad have become a tight unit over the years with some of them being given opportunities to represent in the B squad at different points in the season. They have secured wins over Bradford Girls and Oakbank school in the Bradford League. More importantly they have played with increasing skill, passion, pride and knowledge of the game and it makes me very proud that they take such enjoyment out of playing. I know we will be losing both Francesca and Nimrita at the end of Year 11 and hope that they continue to play netball in their new schools and colleges. Armani is the only member of the squad to be joining us on tour and I know she will thrive with the experience.

Overall, it has been an extremely successful season for many reasons but most important of all that 27 girls who started playing netball at BGS five years ago have ended their time as a squad with more knowledge, more skill and more positive experiences due to the sport which they have played.

U16A Netball

Player of the season **Eve Wellings**

Most Improved **Lizzie Hamer**

Players' Player **Jaya Krishna**

U16B Netball

Player of the season **Ariana Galdins**

Most Improved **Emily Conn**

Players' Player **Catherine Chapman**

U16C Netball

Player of the season **Zarah Yousef**

Most Improved **Anika Malik**

Players' Player **Francesca Grace**



U15 A&B

By A Smith, Teacher i/c U15 Netball

Both U15 squads have gone from strength to strength this season, showing improvements every week and ultimately having their most successful netball season as a year group, to date.

The B team played 10; won six and lost four, while the A team played 13; won six, lost six and drew one. Particular exhilarating performances for the A squad were their narrow victories against Cheadle Hulme (18-17) and Sedbergh (21-20).

I always feel a sense of pride for this year group, as they don't get the results they are after easily, and have worked extremely hard for this year successes. I am delighted that this hard working group of athletes are finally being rewarded for their continuous perseverance and resilience.

Another thing I praise this group of girls for is their willingness to support their peers, on and off the netball court, through both injury and trauma. We were able to present one young girl in this year group with The Pat Evans award for outstanding contribution to netball at their presentation evening this year.

This trophy went to an athlete who has unfortunately suffered a severe knee injury and despite not being able to train and/or play for the whole season has continued to turn up to training and matches to support her team. She has also taken on leadership, umpiring and coaching roles with younger years groups throughout the season. I would like to take this opportunity to say well done Glesni Jones! You are very deserving of this award and I am excited to hear of your return to the court next season.

A special well done to Eva Lockett and Eve Murphy who were both selected to represent Leeds Rhinos netball academies and hubs at the beginning of the season, brilliant girls – keep up the good work!



U14 A&B

By A Smith, Teacher i/c U14 Netball

One word can be used to describe the girls in the U14 netball squads – Talent.

This year group has been blessed with hugely talented athletes who are all eager to perform to the highest standard that they can. As head coach for this year group, this year has been hard work. Trying to separate the girls into three separate squads, when all of them are equally as hard working and as driven as each other, has been very difficult for me this season. And so for that, all I can say is well done girls, you have definitely done your job as athletes.

On the topic of talent, now would be a fitting time to mention the U14A squad and their national schools experience. In October, following a pre-season of intense fitness and netball regimes, the girls took to the court at the West Yorkshire (first) round of the National schools netball competition. They were up against the likes of Woodhouse Grove and The Grammar School at Leeds (GSAL), who are always a potential threat at these competitions. After a long day of continuous effort and wholesome performances from the squad, they qualified for the regional round in first place, and deservedly so. Celebrations didn't last long as the girls and I were keen to continue fitness and training sessions in preparation for the regional round in February.

The day went well with convincing wins over most schools but we unfortunately missed out on our chance to qualify for the final round following narrow losses against The Grammar School at Leeds and Harrogate. I would like to take this opportunity to remind the girls just how proud they made me that day and how well they represented not only the netball staff here at BGS, but also the entire school and most importantly themselves. I expect big things from you next year girls and wish you all of the luck in the world.

Special well done to Naina Krishna and Grace Cogan who earlier this season were selected to represent the Leeds Rhinos netball hubs and academies. Brilliant work girls!



U13 VII

By G K Jones, Teacher i/c U13 VII Netball

The 2017 to 2018 season has been both challenging and successful for the U13 squad in equal measure.

They are a fantastic group of girls with huge potential and enthusiasm, and they attend training in droves, such is their love of the sport. With the facility issues that we have faced throughout the year this has meant that we have had over 30 girls training on one netball court over one lunchtime a week. It is testament to their commitment and resilience that they have continued to show BGS netball their full commitment.

Not only that but the progress which the girls have shown throughout the season has been outstanding and the competition for places in the squads has been fierce. I am proud to say that 30 Year 8 girls have represented school and gained fixtures experience throughout the season.

Many of our girls were selected for district honours in September 2017 and have represented the District team throughout the season with a number now recommended for county honours.

The A squad have had a number of very close games throughout the season many of which we have ultimately lost but on comparing the scores to those in Year 7 huge progress can be seen. Successes in terms of victories have come against Nottingham, St Aidans and Altrincham, all strong opponents.





U12A

By R Miller, Teacher i/c U12 Netball

Played	18
Won	10
Drawn	0
Lost	8
Goals For	209
Goals Against	224
Goals Difference	-15

The U12A team had a very mixed but positive season. When behind in a game they have never given up which has shown their true resilience and how they are developing into talented young sports women.

Within their first term of netball at BGS, the squad endured some heavy defeats to teams such as Stockport Grammar and Cheadle Hulme. However, with ever more training, lots of hardwork, frustration and a developing passion for the sport, the team's fortune began to change. Significant wins against challenging opponents came against Wilmslow High, Stonyhurst and Hymers and not to forget the girls' triumphant wins of the Bradford Schools' League and Tournament.

At BGS we don't measure success through the wins – some of our best netball has been played in defeat. Altrincham Grammar School and RGS Newcastle are games that spring to mind, where our defensive duo of Isobel Hartop and Annabel Petyt dominated, and our drives through court were fantastic. Their athleticism and teamwork was admirable but at times, tired legs and inconsistent passing was the reason we lost games, losing quarters by no more than one or two.

Each of the girls have had their own successes this season, some from moving through squads, some mastering drills in training and some getting player of the match – each girl has had their own individual target and as a squad I couldn't be prouder of how hard they have worked and how much progress they have made.

Players' Player **Amelia Atkinson**

Most Improved **Annabel Petyt**

Player of the Season **Amelie Benson**

U12B

By R Miller, Teacher i/c U12 Netball

Played	13
Won	3
Drawn	1
Lost	9
Goals For	44
Goals Against	150
Goals Difference	-106

With a newly formed team that changed on a weekly basis, the start of the season for our U12B's was challenging.

Wins against Fallibroome, Nottingham High and South Craven instilled positivity into the season. However, our best netball was undoubtedly played against Ilkley Grammar School's A team, where the score line definitely did not reflect our girls play. With phenomenal turn overs and fantastic drives through court our solid performance ended in defeat. Twenty-six girls have competed in the 'B team' this year with over 30 students attending training on a weekly basis. They have been committed and turned out each and every week. They're a group of mixed personalities that bring out the best in each other. The girls are very vocal on court and learning to adapt to different scenarios with every game they play.

The teams are never set in stone, and for some players, this has been used to drive them to succeed. There are always places up for grabs each week, and every player makes selection really difficult which, as a coach or teacher, is fantastic to see the determination of the girls.

Players' Player **Florence Harvey**

Most Improved **Anu Anand**

Player of the Season **Olivia Town**

2nd VII

By R Miller, Teacher i/c 2nd VII Netball

Played	12
Won	4
Drawn	1
Lost	7
Goals For	191
Goals Against	221
Goals Difference	-30

This season has been a mix of fortunes for the 2nd VII. The team has very much improved since the start of the season and has completely transformed attitude towards 2nd team netball.

The Lower Sixth have added a new enthusiasm to the team that has been a breath of fresh air for both teammates and staff. This group is full of bubbly personalities that has brought out the best in each other.

Triumphant highs have occurred this season. One of which was beating local rivals GSAL by 10 goals. Within this game in particular our defensive unit was strong, our centre court players were consistent and calm on the ball and our shooting was on fire. This game showed that the girls had real grit, determination and resilience throughout. Lows have occurred this season such as when we turned up to a tournament in torrential rain that ended up being cancelled whilst we were en route!

The girls love for netball has shone through this season and a particular strength was their willingness to practice the attacking centre pass wall tactic and 'zonal defence'. There is a real sense of team within this squad and it brings out the best in them on court.

This season brought many happy memories for the girls and their commitment to the netball club has been invaluable. It has been a pleasure coaching and umpiring this squad during the course of the season.

Players' Player **Anna Marsden**

Most Improved **Ellie Kehoe**

Player of the Season **Niamh Sedgwick**



Sport
continued ...

Rugby

By J Oakes, Teacher i/c U15 Rugby

August 2018 saw the senior rugby players depart British shores for pre-season preparations in North America. The party of 47 boys (from three year groups) first stop was a training camp based out of the University of Toronto. This section of the tour involved some intense training utilising the university's facilities as well as the famous Fletchers field Rugby Club, which has hosted teams such as England and the All Blacks. Alongside daily rigours, the boys also enjoyed some rest bite in the form of the finest tourist attractions the region had to offer. A particular highlight for them was Canada's wonderland, which is one of North America's largest theme parks. The group also enjoyed spectacular views from the top of the CN Tower and soaked in the unique cultural atmosphere of down town Toronto.

Tour summary

The young men developed throughout the season learning lessons from every game. The idea was to play with as much pace as possible. The lightweight side could not afford to be caught up in too many physical battles and still come out on top.

Tom Wilson captained the side with real passion and showed excellent intensity in both training and fixtures. A willingness, from everyone, to throw the ball around led to be some of the most exciting rugby during the season. At times it let us down when maybe we could have made some different decisions. We live and learn though.

The highlight of the season really must be against Nottingham High School where we won 33-22. Being 17-5 down at half time, it was decided to really play to our strength of being fitter and faster than the opposition. It was a fanatic display of fast flowing tense rugby played between two very committed teams.

It was always difficult to find opposition to accommodate our large squad however; the U16B team took the field half a dozen times to enjoy an excellent win against Stonyhurst.

I would like to thank all the boys for the commitment they showed in training and fixtures. I am sure you will enjoy playing for the senior sides and I hope they continue to play with the excellent positive outlook they have shown this year.

This training phase was then followed by three fixtures against local rugby clubs, which offered the opportunity to develop as a team on the field. Off the field the boys were encouraged to socialise with three Canadian counterparts which provided a real insight in to life in this part of the world. It was extremely inspiration to learn how each of these clubs had developed, particularly the Bellville Bulldogs club whose ground had been built in its entirety by its members. Many of the colts team players provided labour in converting former farmland in to what was now a picturesque and thriving rugby club. As the games went on the strengths of the BGS touring party became apparent, and the comradery that they displayed should hold them in great stead for the season ahead.



From Toronto, the group travelled to New York City via the spectacular Niagara Falls. While in New York the group enjoyed further training opportunities while experiencing the unique sporting culture of the USA. A particular highlight for the pupils was the opportunity to watch Major league baseball at the New York Mets as well as an NFL game between the two franchises based in the city. The highly professional nature of both codes coupled with the uniquely enthusiastic nature of the supporters provided the boys with much inspiration for the season ahead.

The final phase of the tour was to explore Manhattan as a reward for the hard work, which the pupils had displayed across the border while training and playing. Highlights for the boys included the uniquely sombre atmosphere at ground zero, which gave pupils the opportunity to discover the stories of tragedy and heroism surrounding the events of 9/11. The group also travelled to the top of the new world trade centre to gaze upon views from the western hemispheres tallest and most impressive building. The end of tour dinner in the heart of Times Square allowed the boys to reflect on all they had achieved and set goals for what is sure to be an exciting season ahead. Special mention must go to our upper Sixth pupils who undertook many of the leadership tasks whilst on the tour an experience that will hopefully help prepare them for life beyond BGS.

1st XV

By J Oakes, Teacher i/c 1st XV Rugby

The 1st XV had an extremely successful season in 2017, finishing 33 nationally in the Daily Mail trophy ranking system. This position reflected a season in which the team remained undefeated in the first half term, going on to win 12 of their 16 matches overall. This success was built on very strong foundations with 35 pupils pulling on the famous maroon and white hoops across the year. The sterling work of Julian Reed-Purvis and his 2nd XV saw a succession of boys capable of playing the expansive and attractive rugby which became synonymous with the 1st XV over the course of the season.

A successful 1st XV season is long in the building, with many of this year's players returning from what had been a tough season the previous year. The step up in ability and organisation from junior rugby is stark and makes thorough preparation key. The whole squad displayed great commitment to the cause, attending weekly pre-season sessions in the summer term. These sessions built the foundations for an intensive weeks preparation in late August, which saw the squad travel to Portugal's high performance rugby centre in Lisbon. The Year 13 pupils did a fine job of setting the standards, which would carry the team forward. The trip was also



instrumental in integrating a small group of Year 11 pupils into the team who would strengthen the squad for the season ahead. The squad was also bolstered by the return of talismanic prop Barnaby Vaughan who had missed the previous season through injury. This provided great competition to a front row, which had seen Nardeep Madhas and Jem Shivtiel hardened in the cauldron of 1st XV rugby the previous year.

The first nine games of the seasons saw the team have an incredible run of nine wins. This was no easy feat and the team where pushed all the way by some strong opposition. Stonyhurst and Crossley Heath provided extremely tense fixtures, BGS winning by just two points in each game from losing positions with less than five minutes to play. The team showed great character and togetherness in these early encounters winning games, which the previous year would have slipped from their grasp. A cool-headed Charlie Andrews drop goal was needed to make the difference.

Within this nine games run was the traditional derby with GSAL, always a tough fixture made more daunting by the Leeds based powerhouses incredible champions cup run. This was an expansive and entertaining game which really showed off schoolboy rugby at its finest. In the closing minutes GSAL lead by a single point, a centre field scrum was awarded to BGS on the halfway line. This was followed by a training ground move, executed to perfection by Tom Liu allowing Oliver Croudson to burn his way in to the corner for the decisive score. This game, more than any other, showed the team's strength in depth, particularly in the lock position. Nick Hague, Will Elmore and Tom Handy all producing displays of real quality. Nick's emergence was extremely pleasing, as he has played most of his junior rugby in the schools B teams and stands as a ringing endorsement of their importance.



Then came a wakeup call in the form of a 4th round cup exit to Giggleswick School. This was certainly a lesson to the boys, who perhaps underestimated their opponents and learnt not to judge teams by reputation but focus on their own performance. This led in to an incredibly tough fixture with perennial national cup finalist QEGS Wakefield. Despite been outgunned, the Bradford team showed courage and commitment to each other in fighting to the end. In this defeat captain, Zander MacFarlane showed why he was the right man to lead such a wonderful group of young men. His passion never wavered despite the odds. The team bounced back with a very slick performance to defeat Ashville College in real style.

This left what was possibly the toughest two weeks of schoolboy rugby anywhere in England to finish the season. St Peter's, York and Woodhouse Grove both featured

in the top 10 teams nationally this season with Grove lifting the NatWest cup. The team saved two of their best performances for these games. Despite suffering losses in both, the brand of rugby and integrity showed by all the boys was incredible. In the end it was not outstanding individuals but an outstanding team which kept BGS in the fight against the nation's best sides. Defensive captain Danny Brennan exemplified this with his selfless work for the team. His combination with tough tackling winger Ben Scholefield often kept BGS in games with last gasp defensive work of real quality. However, if I was asked to select a man who demonstrated our team values more than any other this could go to non-other than Ibrahim Abdullah. Despite his stature, Ibbby has the heart of a lion.

The final act of the season was a fixture with Colfe's School at the historic Blackheath Rugby Club. This was a reward for the boys after a hard season and for the Year 13s 7 years of dedication. BGS produced an impressive performance and won the game. The result however was immaterial; the team spirit that the boy displayed was the real victory.

Representative honours for the season went to Henry Reed-Purvis, the exciting attacking skills he showed all season were recognised by the England IS Lambs. Lewis Ebert-Laurie continued to represent proudly the Welsh Exiles. Sam Murphy and Harry Boland donned the famous white shirt for Yorkshire U17.

The All Blacks talk about, 'leaving the shirt in a better place than you find it! There is no doubt our 2018 leavers have done this and grown as men through the process of doing so. I have every confidence that the stayers lead by Murphy, Handy, Boland, Rhodes, and Helm can rise to the challenge of taking the famous maroon and white hoops to further heights next season. Let our fundamental philosophy be never to judge by points on a scoreboard, but by the quality of character displayed by the team.

U15B XV

By D Pullen, Teacher i/c U15 Rugby

This was an eagerly awaited season for the U15s squad, that started with a warm up fixture against local club Keighley where they dominated the game, with the opposition only causing problems when Lui Shivtiel and Keighley club member Amrit Sharma swapped to play against them.

Tradition first game of the season, Hymers came up next. They opened brightly, with both backs and forwards moving the ball around well, leading to a try for Chalashika which he duly converted. Hymers were tough competition but they never really looked like they could threaten BGS, with tries from Captain Alfie Weston, the powerful Obi Ene, Lui Shivtiel, and Oscar Andrews from close in.

This was followed by convincing victories against Crossley Heath, Stonyhurst and Nottingham High School. All three sides failed to cope with the open, free flowing rugby played by BGS, the ball moving rapidly around the pitch to stretch the defences. Tom Celik showed strength and pace scoring a brace against Crossleys, whilst fellow winger Sharma matched this against Stonyhurst to begin a rich vein of form that resulted in him ending top try scorer for the season with twelve. The strong running and pace of prop Shaan Aziz were evident as he scored two tries from distance, benefitting from the excellent distribution of Will Luxton who also provided some clattering tackles.

The big game of the season was a match up against local rivals Woodhouse Grove (WHG) in the cup. This game gave exactly as was expected, a tough and hard fought encounter. Woodhouse Grove had dominated all comers and it was a credit to the BGS boys that they never let their heads go down and battled to the end, never letting the visitors gain too much of an advantage.

The signs were clear early on how WHG planned to play. They ran their big forwards hard round the corner and then moved the ball wide to their battering ram centre and deft footed winger. This created problems out wide. Defence in midfield was immense, with wave after wave being chopped low and brought to ground; however, it was the threat on the wing that lead to the first WHG score.

BGS had plenty of possession themselves, and some good ball retention and excellent interplay between forwards and backs, resulted in Lui Shivtiel reaching for the line and just touching the whitewash. This was converted by Chalashika and kept the game close towards the end of the first half. BGS were thwarted on a number of attacking phases by WHG players appearing in the midfield or the long arms of the WHG prop reaching round the maul at the lineout. The visitors moved the ball wide again in the last few minutes of the half and scored again to leave it (14-7) at half time. BGS had some chances in the second half but they lacked enough possession to make a difference. A number of last-ditch tackles prevented tries but they were unable to stop WHG scoring further. This was a humdinger of a game and BGS deserved the late score from Obi Ene as BGS finally created space of their own out wide.

The Grammar School at Leeds (GSAL) and Pocklington were up next and BGS made hard work of these games after the disappointment in the cup. They got back to usual business against Prince Henry's, scoring 54 points with Sharma showing exceptional ability as he scythed through defenders on his way to four tries. Aziz added to his tally with a further two scores in a game that was actually tougher than the result suggests.

Next up was a hard fought and entertaining game against old rivals Queen Elizabeth Grammar School (QEGS) but BGS came out victorious at Fortress Frizinghall. This was a 'no holds barred contest' with nothing held back by either side with a resilient defensive performance from BGS keeping QEGS at bay, tackling low and disrupting the breakdown. Lex Galloway continued a fine season and was a thorn in the side of the QEGS maul at the lineout, thwarting at least one possible score. Ed Harrison continued his excellent performances in the back row with the whole pack fronting up against solid opposition and laying a sound foundation for the backs. Hooker Henry Sisley was a pest as usual at the breakdown and Fred Reed-Purvis, Habib Shafiq, and Josh Greene grafted throughout as they did all year. Ashville were the next side to be on the receiving end of the U15s dominant play, with a number of B team players contributing and demonstrating the strength in depth of the squad.

The highlight was another fine try for Sharma who with the clock ticking down caught the ball inside his own 22. His intentions were clear as he used deft footwork and fantastic pace to leave the defence grasping for air, as he went the length of the field.

A strong St Peter's side provided BGS with one of the toughest games they will ever be part of. It was played by both sides with passion and determination; a contest between the size and strength of Peters versus the pace and power of BGS and it was decided by the slimmest of margins. Whilst the home side were happy to pick and drive and make the occasional foray out wide, BGS relied on their expansive approach to create space and attack on the counter. This really was an entertaining match up, which was a real advert for the game. Both sides knew they had been in a tough battle which could have gone either way. Despite the home side having the majority of possession and territory, BGS were always a threat out wide and looked dangerous. The forwards battled admirably, negating the opposition's pack with superb tackling and work at the breakdown. The backline was excellent as expected, marshalled well by Oscar Andrews and Will Luxton. Chalashika distributed well, creating opportunities for his wide men to find gaps in the defence, but unfortunately it was not quite enough to come away with a win. An away trip to Durham followed and BGS failed to play with the same intensity, losing a game they should really have won with the opportunities they had.

Highlight of the season though was the win in their home 7s tournament, gaining revenge in the final by beating Woodhouse Grove in front of a huge partisan crowd. This was a fantastic performance and was a great way to end what was a great year for a great group of lads. They were a credit to the school and their parents.

Well done!

Awards

Forward of the Year: **Alfie Weston**

Back of the Year: **Amrit Sharma**

Players Player: **Lui Shivtiel**

Most Improved: **James Masterton**

Player	App.	Tries	Con.	Pen./Drop	Total
Mbako Chalashika	12	4	36	0	92
Amrit Sharma	11	12	0	0	60
Lui Shivtiel	12	11	0	0	55
Obi Ene	12	11	0	0	55
Shaan Aziz	12	6	0	0	30
Oscar Andrews	12	3	6	0	27
Alfie Weston (Capt)	10	5	0	0	25
Tom Celik	9	4	0	0	20
Will Luxton	11	2	0	0	10
Henry Sisley	12	1	1	0	7
Habib Shafiq	12	1	0	0	5
Ed Harrison	12	0	0	0	0
Joshua Greene	12	0	0	0	0
Fred Reed-Purvis	11	0	0	0	0
Lex Galloway	11	0	0	0	0

Results	Record			
BGS	31	Hymers	5	1-0
BGS	31	Crossley Heath	10	2-0
Stonyhurst	0	BGS	57	3-0
BGS	54	NHS	7	4-0
BGS	14	Woodhouse G (cup)	28	4-1
BGS	19	GSAL	12	5-1
Pocklington	21	BGS	31	6-1
PHGS	19	BGS	54	7-1
BGS	28	QEGS	7	8-1
BGS	45	Ashville	14	9-1
St Peters	10	BGS	7	9-2
Durham	21	BGS	15	9-3

U16

By O Rogers, Teacher i/c U16 Rugby

The group of boys came into the season full of energy and enthusiasm, despite a tough couple of seasons previously.

The young men developed throughout the season learning lessons from every game. The idea was to play with as much pace as possible. The lightweight side could not afford to be caught up in too many physical battles and still come out on top.

Tom Wilson captained the side with real passion and showed excellent intensity in both training and fixtures. A willingness, from everyone, to throw the ball around led to be some of the most exciting rugby during the season and at times it let us down when maybe we could have made some different decisions. We live and learn though.

The highlight of the season really must be against Nottingham High School where we won 33-22. Being 17-5 down at half time, it was decided to really play to our strength of being fitter and faster than the opposition. It was a fanatic display of fast flowing tense rugby played between two very committed teams.

It was always difficult to find opposition to accommodate our large squad however; the U16B team took the field half a dozen times to enjoy an excellent win against Stonyhurst.

I would like to thank all the boys for the commitment they showed in training and fixtures. I am sure they will enjoy playing for the senior sides and I hope they continue to play with the excellent positive outlook to have shown this year.



Swimming

By B Townsend, Teacher i/c Swimming & Waterpolo

It is not often that swimming gets 'snowed off', but such was the case this year. The six schools competition to be held at school and trips to Ampleforth and Blackburn were cancelled because of travel difficulties.

We withdrew from the annual trip to Whitgift School and the Otter Medley and Bath Cup because the senior boys had qualified for the English Schools Swimming Association (ESSA) Plate Finals at Northampton School on the same day. In the event we were unable to leave the school car park because of the snow. All very disappointing.

After several years' absence, we once again entered the ESSA North East (Yorkshire Area) divisional Freestyle and Medley Relay trials. We were represented in three age groups; U13 boys (Hugo Stonelake, Hassan Quereshi, Niall Turner and Tzavier Thornber), senior girls (Millie Websdale, Millie Fewliss-Jones, Sally Bertrand and Phoebe Ogden) and senior boys (Theo Azfar, Matthew Cogan, Henry Stonelake and Will Marshall). The junior boys were a very close second in both events and the senior girls were a very credible fourth in the Freestyle relay. The senior boys performed what was to be their best performance of the season, taking gold in both medley and freestyle relays.

The John Parry Relays followed in November, held this year at GSAL. They are medley and freestyle relays for boys and girls at U15 and senior age groups. Although we did not make the main finals, it is pleasing to report that all teams made very good accounts of themselves in the 'B' finals.

Audenshaw were our first visitors in spring term. They dominated every event although our boys managed commendable 2nd and 3rd places in most events. In the relays we were always second best and Audenshaw were victors by 141 points to 81.

Two very competitive teams made for a very exciting gala as we hosted Heckmondwike Grammar School. The visitors were hoping to repeat last year's victory but clearly our swimmers had other ideas. The entertainment was first class, with the lead changing hands several times and the noise levels rising, it was a most memorable afternoon. For the record, the final result, dependant on the last race, was BGS 258, Heckmondwike 253.

Four days after Heckmondwike we travelled to GSAL. Both teams were depleted due to swimmers being 'unavailable'. Needless to say it did not match the excitement of that earlier event. That said, the competition was no less fierce with both teams giving their all in this local derby. Of particular note was the performance of our Year seven and eight swimmers, especially the boys who managed to out-score their rivals. Final result; GSAL 210, BGS 140.

Our visit to Woodhouse Grove once again provided an exciting fixture, despite the absence of senior girls and U15 boys. For the majority of the gala there was never more than a few points in it. With the result depending on the relays WHG just managed to pull ahead to win by the narrowest of margins of 153 to 146 points.

Although not all results have gone our way, it is pleasing to note that the spirit of the team never diminished. The senior team, led by captains Theo Azfar and Millie Websdale, were outstanding examples of sportsmanship and camaraderie.

Thanks must also go to Loretta Gibbons for chaperoning the girls and for doing the thankless task of recording the events.



Waterpolo

By B Townsend, Teacher i/c
Swimming & Waterpolo

The senior water polo team enjoyed a very successful season, culminating in reaching the ESSA Plate finals, although, disappointingly, the team were unable to travel because of snow.

The season started with several visits by our neighbours St Bedes. With BGS rebuilding after losing seven first team squad members from last year it was always going to be a big job to compete. As was expected, they were very strong, proving it by being placed fourth in the National Championships. However, these games gave our boys a good grounding for the season.

The boys were led by the irrepressible Theo Azfar who captained the team. He led by example and left the team in no doubt what he expected of them. Needless to say, the boys responded.

The first round of the ESSA Championships was held at the Manchester Aquatics Centre in November.

First opponents were Manchester Grammar School and with the best will in the world this was always going to be a difficult game. The final result was (7-0).

The following three games were much more evenly matched, producing some of the best games of the tournament.

First came Birkdale (Sheffield) and with it a very tense (1-0) victory.

Next came St Edwards (Liverpool) which we lost by the odd goal in five.

Our final game was against KES (Birmingham) who earlier had had a close encounter with MGS. The boys were up for the challenge and produced their best performance of the afternoon. With the scores at (3-3) with one minute to go it looked like we could hang on for at least a draw. Unfortunately, with ten seconds to go KES broke from defence and scored with the last throw of the game.

Despite the defeats the boys were in good spirits and were rightly proud of their performances.

TIME	BLUE CAPS (end closest to the stands)	SCORE	WHITE CAPS (end away from the stands)	SCORE
15:30	MGS	7	BRADFORD	0
15:45	BIRKDALE	0	ST EDWARDS	3
16:00	KES	7	MGS	1
16:15	BRADFORD	1	BIRKDALE	0
16:30	ST EDWARDS	0	KES	9
16:45	MGS	4	BIRKDALE	0
17:00	BRADFORD	1	ST EDWARDS	2
17:15	BIRKDALE	0	KES	5
17:30	MGS	4	ST EDWARDS	1
17:45	BRADFORD	3	KES	4

The second round was held at St Ambrose College.

Although we struggled to adapt to a very small playing area and mini-goals our boys once again showed that good teamwork and spirit can pull you through.

We managed to defeat Birkdale and St Edwards by (2-0) and (3-1) respectively and lost to the hosts by (3-0).

As previously stated, we should then have travelled to the Plate Finals but were defeated by the weather.

The next major fixture was the annual one against the Old Bradfordians. Please see Mike Nixon's report to the right.. I am pleased and proud that so many recent leavers attended what will be my last OB fixture.

BGS v Old Bradfordians

Saturday 21 April 2018

By M Nixon, Old Bradfordian (OB)

The Old Bradfordians Swimming and Water Polo team once again came back to take on the school team in their annual fixture.

With a good contingent from late year's leavers and a mix from the older swimmers, the Old Bradfordians had a chance of revenge from last year's defeat in the swimming.

With good wins from 'Iron Man' Tim Hobbs in the Individual Medley, Masters swimmer Jo Blayney in the 50m Breaststroke and Frankie Williams in the 50m Butterfly, and great 2nd places from Johnny Gill in the 50m Freestyle, Cameron Chippendale in the 50m Backstroke and Matthew Handy in the 100m Freestyle the Old Bradfordians were just ahead before the relays. Other notable swims from James Hart in the 50m Butterfly and Nick 'Kenny' Kershaw in the 100m Freestyle.

The relays were where the Old Bradfordians showed their greater strength in depth and was where the match was won. Tim Hobbs, Jo Blayney, Johnny Gill and Stephen Moorhouse won comfortably the Medley and Freestyle relays for the Old Bradfordians.

Other notable swims were from Neill Lloyd, a great Breaststroke leg and Nick Turner in the Freestyle leg in the Medley Relay.

The Old Bradfordians were also victorious in the Cannon Relay.

Before the Water Polo began, Mike Nixon, captain of the Old Bradfordians team thanked Bryan Townsend, who is retiring this year, for all his hard work over the last 16 years running the School Swimming and Water Polo Teams, he will be much missed.

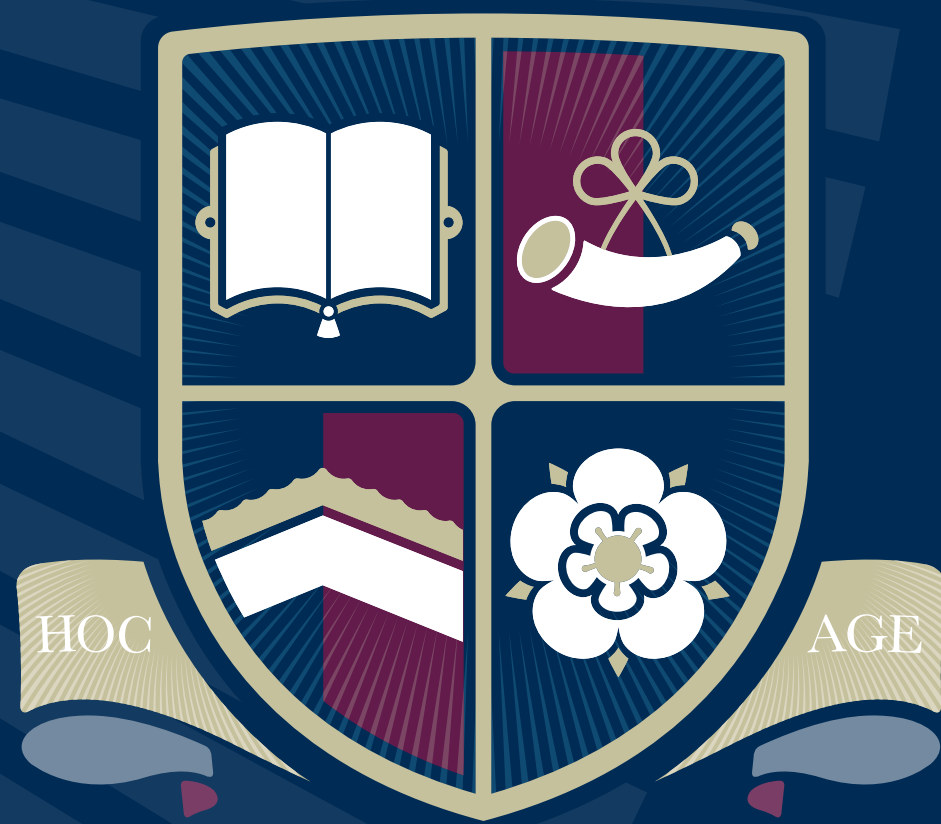
With the school losing seven players from last year, they were always going to be up against it.

The Old Bradfordians, with ex Great Britain player Stephen Moorhouse leading from the front, were simply unstoppable, Jo Blayney, Nick Turner and goalkeeper Neil Lloyd were also outstanding and new to water polo Tim Hobbs scoring at least a hat trick.

Last year's school team came in after the first quarter including Michael Beadle, Ed Truby, Ben Norton, Tom Robinson and Frankie Williams and were also too strong for a rebuilding school team.

Hopefully the Old Bradfordians were able to pass on advice to school and will be harder to beat next year. In summer term a 'Yorkshire Championship' was arranged by Matthew Wright of St Bedes and St Joseph's College. The idea was that the four known school teams in Yorkshire would play mini-tournaments firstly at BGS and then at Ampleforth College. St Peters York were the other competitors. St Bedes proved too strong for all opposition but over the two legs there was nothing to choose between the rest. Just some very competitive end of season water polo that was greatly enjoyed by all. I am hopeful that this will become an annual event.

In summer term the year seven and eight's had the opportunity to play two competitive matches against St Bedes. In the first game St Bedes brought a mixed team of year seven's and after a very spirited game we ran out victors by 7 goals to 6. For the next game St Bedes brought a very experienced mixed team of mainly year eight's. They proved far too strong for our boys but hopefully, if practices are arranged, the team will improve.



As you will have seen within the pages of this publication, we create opportunities for all, encouraging our pupils to embrace new challenges with zeal, support the happiness of one another, and show great character in the pursuit of their goals.

