

THE SUNDAY TIMES  
Northern  
Independent School  
of the Year 2018

Ranked top three in  
the North 2019

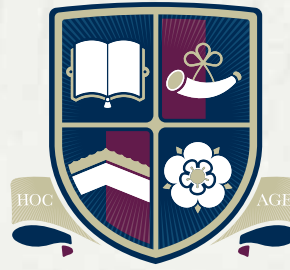
SUMMER  
2019

CHALLENGE 03-05

ARTS 05-07

COMMUNITY 07-10

LIFE 11-12



Bradford  
Grammar  
School

# Hac Age

Feature

## A little piece of the Moon!

Hundreds of excited  
children across Yorkshire  
schools enjoyed a once in  
a lifetime opportunity ...

... to hold a piece of the  
Moon to celebrate the  
50th anniversary of the  
Moon landings.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 03







# Welcome from the Headmaster

Welcome to the latest edition of ‘Hoc Age’. We try to provide a flavour of BGS and reflect the stories shared in assemblies, via our website and social media feeds.

It has been my privilege these past months to witness many BGS activities and successes. I've also been out and about with our historians at Quarry Bank Mill and our Orienteering Club at various leafy corners of Yorkshire, hoping (but failing) to maintain my BGS ‘Aprica Ski Trip’ tan! Thankfully, the sun shone on our Year 13 leavers and their families at our annual Leavers Lunch. A lovely occasion for all.

Beyond that ... Moon rocks, Brownlee triathlon, World Orienteering Day, Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, academic challenges and competitions at local universities, music recitals, volunteering, Spring Fair, sport, trips, talks, clubs and societies ... much has filled our weeks.

There is more to come. It is right to keep living life to the full even when exams loom large. Everything is possible. Balance can be maintained with a healthy and proportionate world view. I pay tribute to our students who achieve precisely this with the support of family, friends and teachers, encouraged by a certain motto... Hoc Age!



*Simon Hinchliffe*

Simon Hinchliffe  
LATEST BLOG ...  
[bradfordgrammar.com/simonsblog](http://bradfordgrammar.com/simonsblog)

JUL

- 3 to 15 July  
Cricket Senior Tour  
– Cape Town, South Africa  
Hockey Senior Tour  
– Cape Town, South Africa
- 6 to 13 July  
Year 8 to 13 CCF Army  
training camp – Beckingham
- 17 July  
BGS OB Golf Bacchus Cup

SEPT

- 21 September  
OBA Annual Dinner
- 23 September  
Year 9 History –  
First World War day
- 24 September  
Founders’ Day

OCT

- 2 to 7 October  
Rowing Vecht Competition  
– Holland
- 5 October  
Open Day
- 10 to 13 October  
Junior Classics trip – Italy
- 23 to 28 October  
Year 9 Hockey Tour –  
Holland
- 23 to 26 October  
DT trip – Bologna, Italy

NOV/DEC

- 7 November  
Sixth Form information  
evening
- 12 November  
Year 13 parents’ evening
- 13 November  
Open morning
- 20 November  
Year 11 parents’ evening
- 26 November  
Caréers evening
- 28 November  
Sixth Form taster morning  
and informal interviews
- 5 December  
Year 9 parents’ evening

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 01

BGS was selected to host the coveted Moon rocks for a week, which were hewn during the original landings on the Moon in the late 1960s and early 70s.

“...”

We were extremely fortunate to secure the loan of rock samples of rocks brought back from the Moon by the Apollo missions.

JULIEN KING, ASTRONOMER AND  
BGS PHYSICS TEACHER

As well as being shown to students, parents and staff at BGS, Julien King, astronomer and BGS Physics teacher, took the rocks to several primary schools including Baildon Church of England Primary School, Eldwick Primary School, Menston Primary School and Tranmere Park Primary School, so even more children would have the opportunity to experience a piece of history for themselves. The samples included a 1.2 billion-year-old piece of Mars rock and a 4.3 billion-year-old nickel meteorite.

Said Mr King: ‘As well as commemorating the first humans to stand on another astronomical body, the rock samples were of tremendous scientific importance, helping astronomers to understand the long-standing mystery of how

the Moon and the Earth formed. It’s fantastic that our staff, parents and pupils had the chance to hold these rocks and also that so many more school children in Yorkshire saw them.’

Dr Simon Hinchliffe, Headmaster at BGS, added: ‘The children have loved hearing all about the Moon mission and seeing first hand a piece of history. It will be something for them to tell their children one day.’

Mr King will also be going out on tour to primary schools with his Galileo Roadshow as part of science week activities, giving pupils an opportunity to look at Galileo’s original drawings and to discuss how they showed, for the first time, the true nature of our Solar System. Pupils will also be able to use replica 17th-century telescopes to experience the techniques Galileo would have used and compare them to modern equipment.

## Keep yourself up-to-date!

LATEST STORIES ...  
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LATEST EVENTS ...  
[bradfordgrammar.com/events](http://bradfordgrammar.com/events)

IN THE PRESS ...  
[bradfordgrammar.com/press](http://bradfordgrammar.com/press)

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[bradfordgrammar.com/news](http://bradfordgrammar.com/news)

# Rocket cars

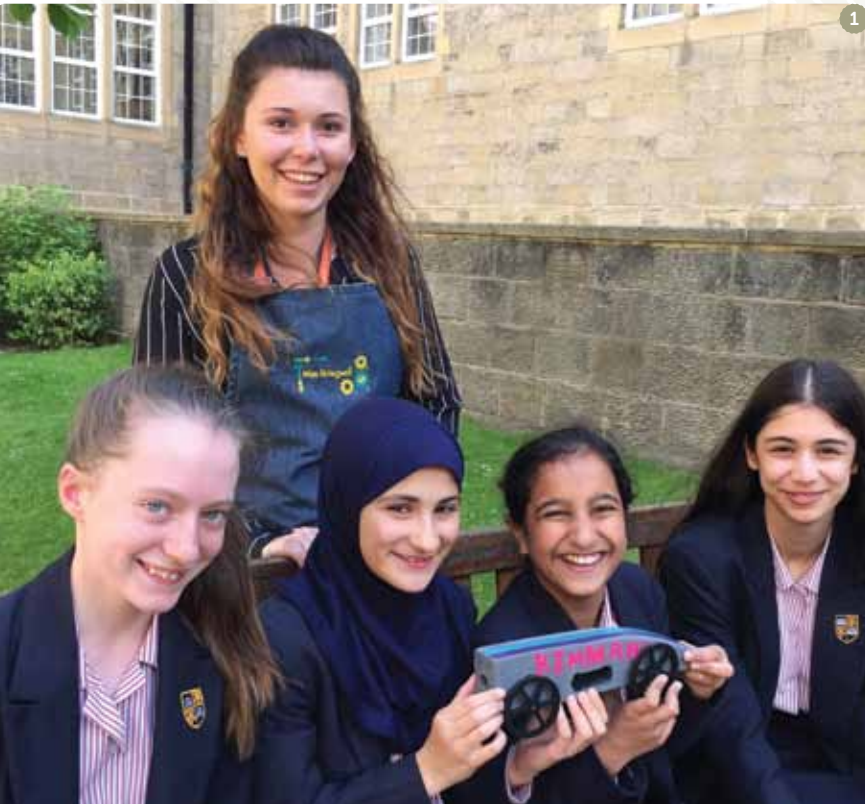
Year 7 BGS pupils took part in the ‘Race for the Line’ competition.

The national contest saw pupils focused on the development of their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) core skills. The pupils worked in small teams to research, design and construct a rocket powered car. Inspiration of the project came from the Bloodhound Supersonic car which is intended to break the land speed record of over 1,000 mph!

BGS Head of Year 7, Emma Tomlinson, said: ‘The pupils loved it! They entered into the spirit of this team event and have demonstrated great support and encouragement of each other. I can’t wait to see how the winning team does in the national final.’

The cars were racked up and loaded with rocket charges. After an enthusiastic count down for each team, the rocket was ignited, and the cars shot off down the race track. The fastest cars travelled at over an impressive 47 km/hour but variations in time were affected most by how well the cars travelled along the guide wire.

School prizes were awarded to the fastest in form teams and best designs. The fastest team in school, with their car named Kemah was, Kinza Khan, Emma Makin, Hannah Nawaz, and Hema Narang. The race day results were then given to the organisers to judge. We were delighted when this year our winning team were invited to the national finals. Well done everyone!



CAPTIONS  
1 ‘The pupils loved it! They entered into the spirit of this team event and demonstrated great support and encouragement of each other.’





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# Cyber crime unit launches challenge 2019

“...”

It's fitting we return to BGS to launch this year's competition.

DETECTIVE SERGEANT SHELTON NEWSHAM

The Matrix Challenge is aimed at children and young people aged between 11 and 17 years old. Anyone receiving their education in the Yorkshire and Humber Region is eligible to enter.

The challenge tests each player's cyber skills, educates them on the computer misuse act and also helps them develop a better understanding of online safety. Last year BGS pupil, Angela Wong, was the overall winner in the 11 to 14 year old age category.

Detective Sergeant Shelton Newsham who is leading the Challenge said: 'Angela was a fantastic contestant last year and was a deserved winner. It's fitting we return to BGS to launch this year's competition.'

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## Prestigious training programme for our Hockey Coach

BGS Hockey Coach, David Birch, has been accepted onto the Great Britain Hockey Advanced Coaching Programme (ACP). Coaches will have the opportunity to further their learning whilst gaining insight to various environments, such as Great Britain camps training for the Olympics and international series.

The ACP only accept 30 applicants per cohort including 20 from England, five from Wales and five from Scotland.

David said: 'My first workshop is on Sunday 23 June at Lillesham National Sports Centre, where I will be working alongside England National Age Group squads, who are currently preparing for their next international series. The course is designed to enhance coaches' knowledge and understanding of the game. I thoroughly look forward to implementing the benefits at BGS, improving all students' experiences in Hockey.'

## Pupils' art showcase raises over £1,000 for NSPCC



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An amazing art exhibition showcasing the wonderful artistic talents of pupils at BGS raised an incredible £1,140 for the NSPCC.

'Speak out. Stay safe' is an innovative NSPCC programme delivering safeguarding messages to primary school children.

Michelle Poucher, Local Schools Service Coordinator for the NSPCC said: 'Children who suffer abuse often don't recognise what is happening to them is wrong, so it is hugely important we reach as many children as possible to help protect them from all forms of abuse.'

'Thanks to the incredibly talented pupils at BGS, we can reach even more children with these vital safeguarding messages.'

BGS Head of Art, Josie Barraclough said: 'We get a real sense of reward watching students grow over a period of time because you see how their art work progresses, how they participate and how they've improved. I think contributing to the arts as a young person is important. It aids their personal development and wellbeing, because it gives them a chance to evaluate themselves, and their work and to come out of their comfort zone.'

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CAPTIONS

5 'The course will benefit knowledge of the coaches understanding of the game hugely, which I thoroughly look forward to implementing at BGS.'

6 Thanks to the incredibly talented pupils at BGS we can reach even more children with these vital safeguarding messages

CAPTIONS

1 'Angela was a fantastic contestant last year and was a deserved winner - it's fitting we return to BGS for the launch.'

2 Our Year 8 Chemistry team came second in the University Challenge at the Salters Science festival

3 Huge thanks to the netball girls for raising £990 to support charity Behind Closed Doors

4 Well done to Hannad and Harris who came first and second in the Jitsu Foundation Randori nationals





## Making the most of Music at BGS

Students from Menston Primary School enjoyed a fantastic visit to BGS for a music taster day.

The students enjoyed a tour of the school and learnt 'This is Me' from the hit musical 'The Greatest Showman'. Each student was sent home with a CD recording of their song. Thanks go to Jill Wagstaff, the music teacher at Menston Primary and the two parent helpers, Rachel and Jessica.

Elizabeth White, Director of Music at BGS, said: 'The children really enjoyed themselves. It went so well and we're looking forward to holding another music day soon.'



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### CAPTIONS

- 1 Alex Davies
- 2 Cerys Ali
- 3 Mahum Sheraz
- 4 Sofia Koenig-Gimeno
- 5 Archie Horsfield
- 6 Eloise Rees

### CAPTIONS

- 1 'It was a real pleasure to be able to read these pieces and brilliant to see so many promising young writers.'
- 2 Making the most of Music at BGS

# Children's creative award winner!

Eighteen young writers and poets have won awards in The Mount School's Creative Writing Competition for the 2019 York Literature Festival.

One of the winners was BGS pupil Zaara Mahmood who won the 12 to 15 years Short Story Award. The competition invited entries on the theme of 'Moon and space' from writers and poets aged 18 and under. Over 120 entries were received from nine schools around the country.

The independent panel of adjudicators praised the quality of the entries. They said: 'The quality of the entries for this year's competition made judging them very difficult, but also really exciting. It was a real pleasure to be able to read these pieces and brilliant to see so many promising young writers.'

“...”

The quality of the entries for this year's competition made judging them very difficult, but also really exciting.

# Over £4,500 raised for charities

Now in its third year, the BGS Interact Club (a junior branch of the Rotary Club) has had its most successful year yet, running a Harvest Appeal food collection for Bradford Metropolitan Foodbank, a daffodil collection for Marie Curie and collecting over 450 Easter Eggs for the JCI Bradford appeal.

Led by their President, Grace Cogan, they have held fundraising events and collections throughout the year, achieving a splendid total of £4,600 to be shared equally between the World Wildlife Foundation, NSPCC and Bradford Nightstop.

At their annual Charter Party earlier in the term, the members voted for next year's international, national and local charities: Human Appeal, the National Institute for Conductive Education and Yorkshire Air Ambulance. Rebecca McCash was elected as the new President. We look forward to a year under her leadership.

## Skipton Tennis Centre

We're so thrilled to be the new sponsors of Skipton Tennis Centre, voted the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) Club of the Year, widening participation and engaging children in the local community!

The next 12 months will bring numerous collaborative projects including junior tournaments – watch this space!



# Mental health is about more than just talking ...

One of the UK's leading mental health campaigners encouraged parents to help their children follow their individual journeys by letting them know they can talk about mental health openly without judgement, during a talk at BGS.



Natasha Devon, who was awarded an MBE for her services to young people and named one of the 500 most influential people in Britain, told parents at BGS about the unique functions of the developing brain and how the skills of critical thinking, healthy stress coping mechanisms and emotional literacy could be nurtured during this time.

Natasha, a former Government Mental Health Champion, said: 'Mental health is about more than just talking. We need to be responsible, open and practical to find the right path for the individual. We often tell pupils that if they report bullying, it will stop, for example. In my experience, they quickly realise that it's not quite as simple as that and this prevents them "telling" after future bullying incidents.

'Similarly, it would be irresponsible, as educators, to echo the celeb "just talk" narrative. We should instead say: "If you open up to me, I'll listen and do everything I can to help you get any further help you need. It might take a while and it might not work first time, but I'll support you, to the best of my ability, every step of the way."

Natasha was visiting BGS as part of Mental Health Awareness Week.

She added: 'It's clear the staff and students have a solid commitment to improving wellbeing and healthy lifestyles with far reaching benefits. Every young person should have access to mental health support.'

Jane Chapman, Assistant Head Pastoral, said: 'Her talk to parents was very well received and she shared practical tips about how to hold conversations with young people, about their mental health, telling her own story to illustrate how the narrative of mental health conversations has changed in the past 20 years.

'She covered a wide range of themes including the inadequacies of language and delivered some really important messages about how we can help our children when they are struggling with poor mental health.'

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“...”

It's clear the staff and students have a solid commitment to improving wellbeing and healthy lifestyles with far reaching benefits.

NATASHA DEVON MBE



“...”

I was delighted to be invited ...

DR ZOE WILLIAMS



Dr Zoe Williams inspired students to reach for their aspirational goals

TV personality Dr Zoe Williams told students at BGS to 'work hard, dream big and seek out opportunities' to reach their aspirational goals.

The well-known medical expert on ITV's 'This Morning', who sits alongside Holly Willoughby and Phillip Schofield, spoke to pupils about the value of living a healthy lifestyle and her passion for inspiring the next generation to be the best they can be.

Free 'before and after' school care

BGS is delighted to announce that as of September 2019, the BG7 Calder Valley bus will pick up and drop off outside the gate of The Gleddings School in Halifax.

Mrs Wilson, Head of The Gleddings has kindly offered the use of their 'before and after' school care free of charge.

Said Mrs Wilson: 'The Gleddings will welcome any BGS pupil who needs before and/or after school care or a place to wait. We will happily provide breakfast and tea (our chef Lizzie is a legend) and a place to be warm, dry, do homework, safe internet access and even play a game of football. All BGS pupils will be truly welcome as guests.'

The school opens at 7am, earlier for anyone needing it, and closes at 6pm (later by arrangement).

For more details contact Karen Hewitt, BGS Admissions Manager, on 01274 553702 or email [khewitt@bradfordgrammar.com](mailto:khewitt@bradfordgrammar.com)

Zoe said: 'I was delighted to be invited to Bradford Grammar School. The school is so beautiful and the pupils are very lucky to learn in such an impressive environment. Encouraging all young people to exercise and eat healthily is absolutely crucial, so I'm thrilled to support the school in this way.'

Head of PE Qualifications, Rachel Miller, said: 'Zoe was absolutely fantastic! As a keen sportswoman who has played women's rugby at premiership level, her knowledge and depth around the importance of sport and healthy living is second to none. We hope she will return to BGS in the near future to visit the new sports facilities.'

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## Young volunteers

With the UK marking National Volunteers' Week from 1 to 7 June, 14-year old Esther Tucker is proving that you are never too young to start volunteering as she completes a full year as a volunteer synchronised swimming coach for Kirklees Active Leisure (KAL).

The Huddersfield teenager has been coaching young swimmers, aged from eight to 13 years, every week at the Aqua Fun Sessions held at Holmfirth pool.

These Aqua Fun sessions act as a pathway into the main Borough of Kirklees (BOK) Synchronised Swimming Club, where Esther has been a member since the age of seven, and are delivered by BOK's Head Coach, Jade Wyke.

Esther initially started volunteering to help complete her Duke of Edinburgh Award, but enjoyed it so much she decided to carry on as part of the coaching team.

'Originally I was just going to do it for the three months needed to count towards my Bronze Award,' said Ester. 'But I really enjoyed helping to teach swimmers the basic synchro figures and how to put them together in a routine.

'I also liked showing them some of the different exercises that can help build up their core strength, which is really needed for synchronised swimming.'

Head Coach, Jade Wyke, said: 'Esther is a great help at the weekly sessions and is very popular with the young swimmers. They appreciate that she is always willing to get in the water with them and demonstrate how to complete each set of figures correctly, as well as joining in with their routines. The fact that Esther is nearer their age, and a synchronised swimmer herself, has meant the girls have really warmed to her and respond well to her coaching.'

### CAPTIONS

- 1 Natasha Devon MBE at the BGS book signing
- 2 'Her talk to parents was very well received.'
- 3 Dr Zoe Williams with Aminah Noor, Hamad Ayaz, William Ogden and Amelia Betts
- 4 'I liked showing them some of the different exercises that can help build up their core strength.'





Designed by Kreyonok\_Yuliya Freepik

Open Science Lecture Series:

## The role of the Southern Ocean in regulating the climate

In an open public science lecture, Dr Alex Brearley, an Old Bradfordian and Physical Oceanographer, talked about some of the cutting-edge research of the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) and how collaborators are undertaking to understand the ocean itself, and its impact on regional and global climate.

In addition to traditional ship-based observations, Alex showed some of the novel robotic underwater technology that oceanographers now use to make the measurements we require to understand the physical mechanisms that drive these climate-scale changes.

He introduced the audience to a fleet of robotic undersea gliders he uses to collect his data. Finally, Alex showed us the future of Antarctic research with the Sir David Attenborough research vessel, currently under construction in the UK.

## Sixth Form Volunteering

Many Year 12 and Year 13 students continue to make a difference volunteering.

“...”

It was an excellent trip ... challenging government policy makers.

Ten Year 13 students continued the excellent work with Barnados Young Carers by volunteering every Thursday after school between November and February.

Several Year 13 students helped with BGS Games lessons with Year 7 on Fridays and others volunteered at local primary schools, helping with maths and games lessons.

Year 12 and 13 students helped Bevan House in Bradford with two after school clubs for refugee children in Bradford. BGS is the only school involved in assisting the organisation with 16 students and making a real contribution. Our Year 7 and 9 students also raised £500 selling food to raise money for the charity to provide Christmas presents for the children.

BGS continues to work with three local primary schools, Beckfoot Heaton Primary, Frizinghall Primary and Shipley CE Primary School, providing 16 volunteer readers that help primary school children with reading. Students also help in Clock House with lessons as well as assisting at lunchtimes, acting as Peer Mentors.

The Age UK Wellbeing and Engagement Scheme has been very popular with our students and visitors. They particularly enjoy the weekly quiz and a chance to chat over tea and biscuits. The group has learned a lot about life in Bradford during the War and how Bradford has changed over the years. One of our visitors was present when the school was officially opened in January 1949.

To complete the Neesie project, a unique concept which provides supportive friendships and help for single mothers, four Year 13 students, Dr Hinchliffe and Mr Crabtree accompanied Noreen Khan to visit parliament. It was an excellent trip providing the students with an opportunity to meet with MPs in Parliament and discuss the changes facing single parents and challenge government policy makers.

This year, 21 Year 12 students have formed three teams to work together on the Neesie project with an event in Bradford's Broadway planned for Wednesday 26 June and Friday 28 June.

Students have also helped facilitate the Brownlee Triathlon and the Bradford School Games.



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### Senior Classics trip

A group of 24 classics students travelled to Greece at the beginning of April for a fast-paced but rewarding tour of some of the main classical sites.

As well as following the well-worn tourists' path through Athens, Delphi and Olympia, they also had a chance to explore some quieter corners of the ancient Greek world, including the oblong fifth century theatre at Thorikos and the Kerameikos (cemetery and potters' quarters) in Athens.

Spanning almost two millenia of ancient history, from the tholos tombs at Mycenae to Hadrian's arch, this was a memorable (if rather wet) trip, and a great way to bring perspective to the Classics pupils study in school.

## French exchange

2019 marks the 20th anniversary of our exchange with Collège Sancy-Artense in the beautiful Auvergne region of central France. In 1999 we hosted our first group of pupils from this small rural school and have never looked back. Over the years we have experienced various adventures such as flooding, too much snow, not enough snow, bird flu, red tape, strikes, cancelled flights and this year there was the unknown quantity of Brexit.

However, we persevered, determined in our belief that foreign exchanges offer a unique opportunity to experience life first-hand in a host family. The discovery of small differences such as greetings, mealtimes, furnishings, shops, the sound of the school bell, even cutlery, all make these visits fascinating. This year was no exception, as pupils learnt how to kiss their French partners on both cheeks and how much more conscientious the French are at recycling.

### Iceland

Forty intrepid students from Years 8 to 11 experienced a wide variety of landscapes up close and personal.

They walked behind towering waterfalls, clambered alongside, over, and even under, the mighty Solheimajokull glacier, climbed on a bridge spanning the boundary between the Eurasian and North American tectonic plates, felt the spray of geysers, and smelt the sulphurous bowels of the earth at boiling mud puddles. They felt the earth shake in an earthquake simulator, explored volcanic activity at the newly-opened Lava Centre and circumnavigated the crater of an extinct volcano. Studying the earth has never been so much fun!

“...”

... foreign exchanges offer a unique opportunity to experience life first-hand in a host family.

Pupils gain so much from exchanges like this, both on an academic and personal level, navigating their way through life with a French family, using both linguistic and interpersonal skills. They grow in confidence, improve their listening skills immeasurably and by the end of the week are speaking French with increasing panache. The friendships which are formed on the French exchange often last well beyond this initial trip, with pupils and their families organising further visits in following years and younger siblings being paired with the same host family.

You cannot put a price on watching pupils form these bonds beyond the borders of Britain. At a time when government red tape, the uncertainties of Brexit and a national decline in language learning pose a risk to exchanges, observing British pupils delighting in another culture rather than just pointing and speaking loudly with foreigners is a life-affirming joy.

**CAPTIONS**  
1 Senior Classics trip to Greece  
2 Iceland



Life

## Meet Dean Winter, BGS Executive Chef 'Give me simple food using fresh ingredients ...'



I first got into the catering industry through my uncles who were in the RAF. One of them was a chef and I spent a couple of summer holidays as a teenager helping him out, so it seemed like a natural progression to join the RAF and move into catering. I did 12 years before moving back to 'Civvy Street' in London into restaurant management before retraining as a driving instructor.

### CAPTIONS

1 'Give me a beef tomato, some mozzarella, a sprinkling of basil and a drizzle of oil and balsamic vinegar any day.'

2 Fifty pupils took part in the biennial visit to the beautiful Rhineland, May 2019

I moved back to my native Huddersfield and worked in pubs and restaurants before joining Bradford Grammar School as Catering Manager five years ago. My remit was to move away from as much processed food as possible and that's what we've done. All of our sauces are freshly made, from our sweet and sour sauces to our chilli, and it's all cooked on site.

It's been a journey with all the chefs because they were used to a certain style of catering. We'd make a kettle full of tomato sauce and I'd be telling them to put more salt in or more sugar and they would be concerned they were putting too much in. But this way we can control how much we put in. You can't imagine how much sugar there is in processed sauces out of jars.

We've definitely expanded the menu over the years. We used to just have ham, cheese and tuna sandwiches but now we'll have anything from coronation chicken to a falafel wrap. We also make our own fresh bread every day and fresh street food, such as pasta. The salad bar has expanded threefold and I'll always try and incorporate some vegan choices into the menu. It's very seasonal, so you'll tend to find more stews in winter and quiches in summer. It depends on the weather.

I try to keep it interesting. There's nothing worse than coming in for lunch thinking it's the first Monday of the month, it must be ... cottage pie. It stops the chefs getting bored and it stops the pupils getting bored to have a varied menu.

There's a few of us independent school caterers and we go around each other's schools and have a look around the kitchens to see what we're offering and eat lunch. I like to think the food we offer here is as good as you'll get in the whole of the North of England independent school sector.

What's my favourite food? It's probably Mediterranean food. I spent a lot of time overseas in countries such as Spain and Italy. There's nothing like simple food using fresh ingredients. Give me a beef tomato, some mozzarella, a sprinkling of basil and a drizzle of oil and balsamic vinegar any day.

READ MORE ...

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### Rhineland

Fifty pupils took part in the biennial visit. The 'Rheinlandbesuch' introduces the linguistic and cultural delights of Germany and this visit did not disappoint – it was a first trip to Germany for many, and for some, their first trip abroad.

Pupils practised their German to order ice-creams, make purchases in shops and to fill in a diary as well as completing a scavenger hunt, finding words that begin with the same letter in German and English to gain maximum points in the next day's competition. Culturally, the pupils visited a traditional 'Rodelbahn', had a guided tour of one of the Moselle valley's most beautiful castles and experienced first-hand an eruption of the world's highest cold-water geyser. BGS looks forward to the next visit in May 2021.

### Amsterdam

Our trip to Amsterdam was unforgettable; the bustling trams, inspiring museums and all the beautiful tulips.

Not only was it a fantastic opportunity to explore the modern city, but it was massively beneficial to our artistic skills and the way a lot of us view art.

We learnt to paint landscapes whilst we sat in 20 degrees sunshine in Vondel Park. We took in the views of city life on an hour-long canal cruise weaving through the backwaters of the fabulous capital. Most people commute around the city by bicycle, meaning it was a shock for us car-using Brits to see the thousands of bikes stacked together in rows and mixed in with pedestrians.

We all made so many memories because we were constantly laughing and having a great time.

Amelia Betts, BGS pupil

### Hockey Fun Evening

BGS sport hosted a Hockey 'Fun' evening on Friday 7 June. There were girls vs boys fixtures taking place for years 7-10.

This was a much anticipated fixture throughout the year for most year groups and there were some good games on show. All parents, guardians and staff were welcome to watch the fixtures on BGS's new astro turf facility.