

THE SUNDAY TIMES
Northern
Independent School
of the Year 2018

Ranked top three in
the North 2019

AUTUMN
2019

CHALLENGE 03-04
ARTS 05
COMMUNITY 06
JUNIORS 07-13
LIFE 14-16



Bradford
Grammar
School

Mac Age

Feature



An inspiration to us all!

Following a diagnosis of a rare form of ovarian cancer aged just 13, Tabitha Wood has launched her own charity to help other youngsters living with cancer.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 03

Tabitha Wood, now 15, has so far raised more than £22k for the teenage cancer ward at Leeds General Infirmary (LGI) and Hannah's Willberry Wonder Pony, a charity which grants equine wishes for seriously ill people.



Welcome from the Headmaster

Each Monday in assembly we celebrate the activities and achievements of the previous week ...

It is impossible to mention everything given the richness of life at BGS, but senior colleagues, including myself, always try to give a representative picture of happenings at school to praise, encourage, inspire and say 'thank you'.

We nodded our caps to a balance of sports fixtures that saw wins in nearly three quarters of all fixtures against tough opposition. These included turnaround results for some BGS squads who kept plugging away, believing in their teammates and playing with competitive spirit when the points had gone our way. Biology Olympiad certificates were awarded and CCF Brigade shooting honours recognised. We praised the commitment of our choirs and looked ahead to forthcoming performances, including the Nine Lessons and Carols Service at Bradford Cathedral and the production of 'Little Shop of Horrors' in the New Year. We have also commended students for their impeccable conduct during Armistice Day commemorations and thanked them for supporting the recent Leading Ladies and open morning events.

None of this would be possible without the support of our BGS families. The grateful thanks of everyone at BGS is extended to you all and we hope folk enjoy reading this latest edition of our termly school digest, Hoc Age.

Simon Hinchliffe

Simon Hinchliffe

LATEST BLOG ...

bradfordgrammar.com/simonsblog



DEC/JAN

13 December
Colfe's Rugby Fixture
15 to 21 December
Killington USA Ski Trip

8 January
Old Bradfordians New Year
get together

14 January
Open Morning

14 January
Keyboard Concert

15 January
Year 9 Linking event

21 January
String Concert

29 January
Brass Concert

30 to 31 January
'An Inspector Calls'

FEB

4 February
Vocal Concert

5 to 7 February
School production
'Little Shop of Horrors'

6 February
Intermediate Maths
Challenge

6 to 8 February
Year 13 Tudor London

10 February
GCSE Science Live

11 February
New Year 7 Taster Day

14 February
Year 7 Taster Day

15 to 22 February
Junior Ski Trip,
Bardonecchia, Italy

25 February
Year 8 Linking Event

MAR

10 March
Open Morning

10 March
Guitar Concert

11 March
GCSE German Study Visit
Information Evening

14 March
Year 9 Bronze DoE Training
Day and Walk

17 March
Sixth Form Taster Morning
and Informal Interviews

17 March
Chamber Concert

16 March
A Level Religious Studies
Conference

20 March
T2U Business Conference

24 March
UKMT Team Maths
Challenge

26 March
Spring/Leavers' Concert

27 to 28 March
GCSE Religious Studies
Revision Residential



Bradford
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School

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 01



Most of the funds were raised via a tough 250-mile cycle ride from London to Leeds in the summer. Following its success, the experience has spurred Tabby on to set up her own charity.

Tabby, who is in remission, said: 'I feel well now, and it meant a lot to be able to do the cycle ride. When I was on the cancer ward, everyone looked a bit sad and I thought it would be nice to have something which would take their minds off things, like iPads. Also, I really love horses and I know how much horses have helped me in my recovery, so I wanted to give back to a charity which makes wishes come true for people who love horses and are ill.'

Tabby was diagnosed with a rare form of fast-growing ovarian cancer when she was just 13. The keen horse rider had shown few symptoms other than feeling tired and a lump in her stomach. Tests showed she had a tumour the size of a melon and she underwent emergency surgery at LGL to remove it.

Tabby and Ben, a former BGS student who is now in his first year at Cambridge University, came up with the challenge to ride from London's Charing Cross Hospital,

“...”

It was a big challenge, so it was quite daunting ... I'd never ridden a bike on the road until five weeks before we set off!

TABITHA WOOD

where Prof Seckl waved the team off, to the LGL, where her day-to-day care takes place, as a way of giving back to the people who saved her life.

Said Tabby: 'It was a big challenge, so it was quite daunting, especially because I'd never even ridden a bike on the road until five weeks before we set off!'

Tabby now has blood tests every two months and scans every three to keep a close eye on her health. She's looking forward to presenting her cheques to her chosen charities. The target was £10,000 but the family surpassed that by raising £22,500. They were helped by Tabby's classmates who raised £325 from a bake sale and sports day.

To donate, please visit <http://bit.ly/tabbystrust>

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Hoc Age

02 / 03

Challenge



BGS pupil becomes lifesaver

After learning first aid at an after-school club, BGS pupil Stephen Orbeladze, then 9, was quickly able to put his first aid knowledge into practice by helping a woman who collapsed on his street.

When he saw the lady was unresponsive, he quickly went over and tried talking to her. When she wasn't talking he checked for breathing by putting his ear to her mouth. Once he knew she was breathing, he rolled her on to her side with her head tilted back. He then asked his mum to call for an ambulance and they stayed with her until one arrived.

Stephen, from Skipton, but who now lives in Bradford, said: 'I was a little nervous but I remembered what to do because I had learned it at first aid club. I think it is important to know what to do because we should all help each other. I am really proud of what I did.'

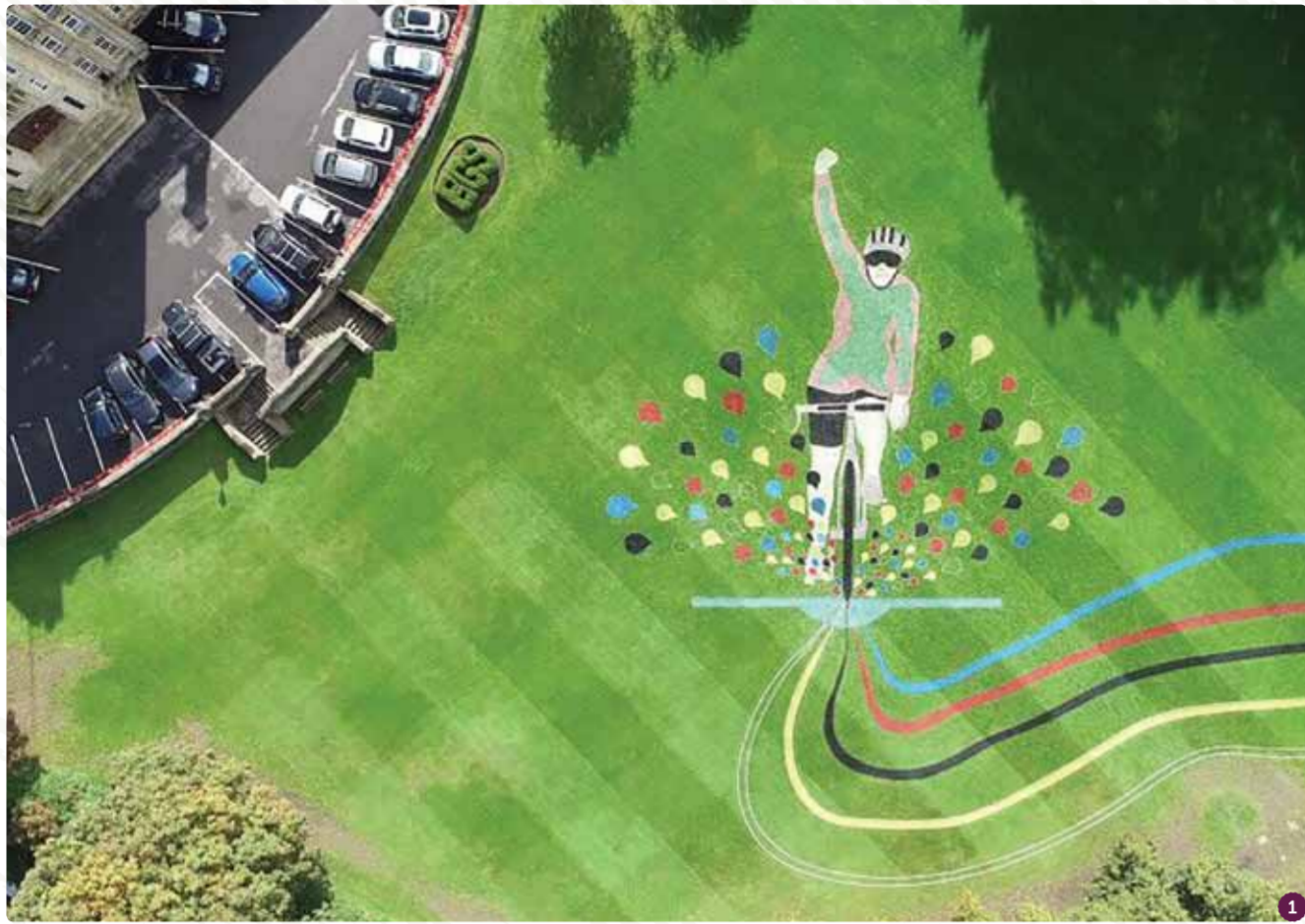
Stephen's dad, Wayne, said: 'Stephen's incredible bravery shows the importance of teaching first aid to children. He used the skills he learned in school to help a woman who had collapsed in front of him. We're incredibly proud of him.'

'I think most people probably would have been too afraid to help her because they might not know what to do, but not Stephen. His training gave him the confidence to rush over and jump into action.'

CAPTIONS

1 'I feel well now, and it meant a lot to be able to do the cycle ride.'

2 'I was a little nervous but I remembered what to do because I learned it at first aid club.'



1

Pupils take part in giant land art project

An innovative land artist enlisted willing helpers from the Junior School to create his latest work.

CAPTIONS

- 1 The female rider re-emerging from the ford in the grounds of BGS
- 2 Skipton Tennis Centre and BGS have a lot of sporting values in common

Andrew Wood, from Fields of Vision, created a piece of art running from Bradford's Lister Park to the Governors' Lawn to mark the UCI World Championships.

'The artwork depicts a member of local successful women's cycling club, Queensbury Queens of the Mountain, who follow the UCI World Championship colours into Lister Park and enter the broad-ford, mixing the colours as they fly through the air,' he said.

Felicity Robertshaw-Hughes, Deputy Head Pastoral at Bradford Grammar Junior School, said: 'The children thoroughly enjoyed helping Andrew create his artwork and were very excited to see the finished product. It's been fantastic for them to help celebrate a major sporting event in this way.'

READ MORE ...
bradfordgrammar.com/news



“...”

Skipton Tennis Centre and BGS have a lot of sporting values in common



2

Inspiring children to pick up a racket

BGS teamed up with Skipton Tennis Centre (STC) to run a youth tennis competition, which saw more than 20 seven to ten-year olds pick up their rackets and take to the courts.

Adam Cox, Head Coach at STC, said he takes great pride instilling a love of tennis in hundreds of children at the centre and that competitions help youngsters to challenge themselves while having fun.

'Skipton Tennis Centre and BGS have a lot of sporting values in common which makes them a perfect fit. Sport should be inclusive and accessible to all people and communities. One of the key elements is it needs to be fun. Tennis is a great way to have fun while energising the body and mind, and it allows young players to build confidence and make outstanding progress,' he said.

READ MORE ...
bradfordgrammar.com/news



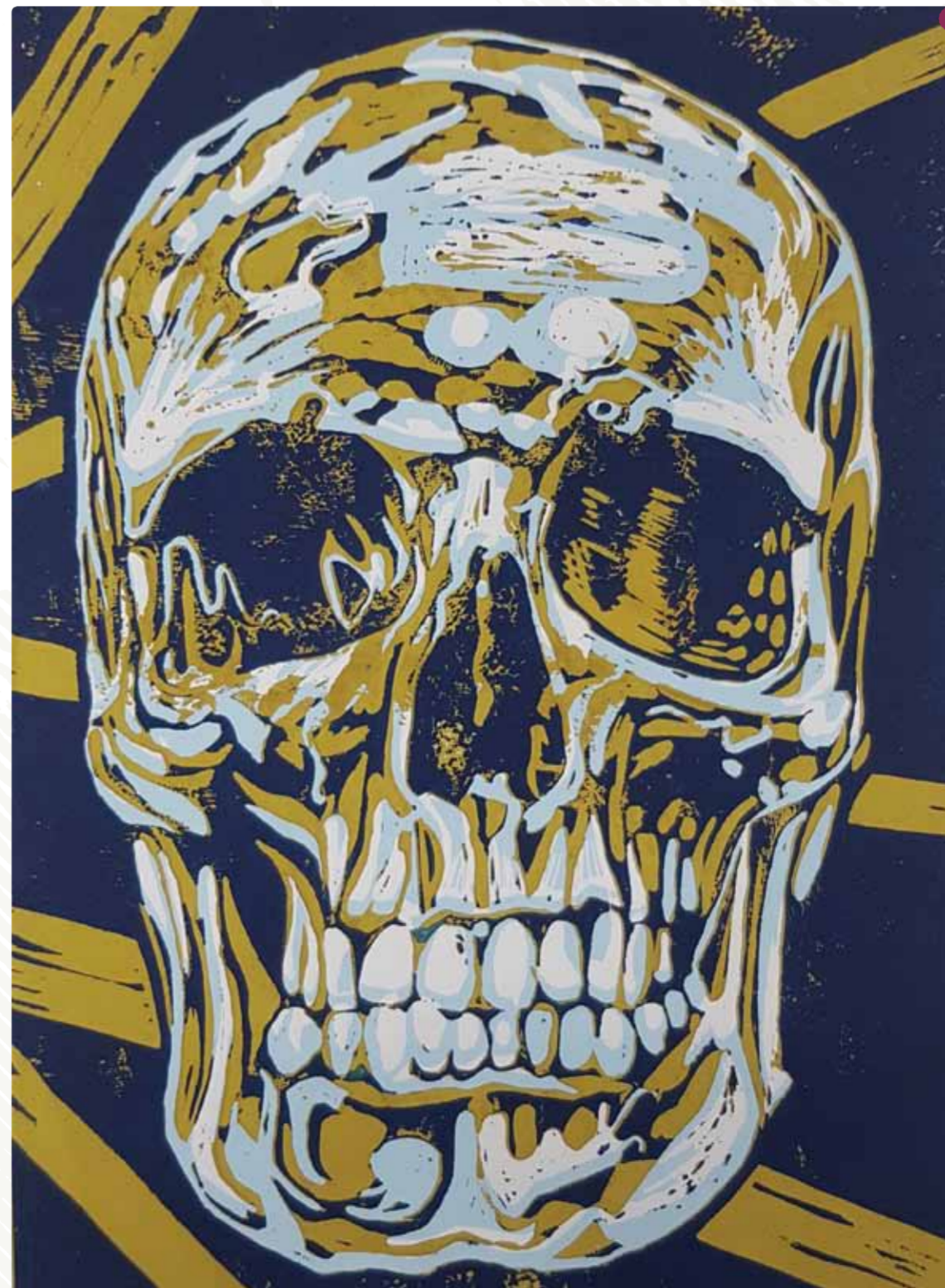
Arts



1



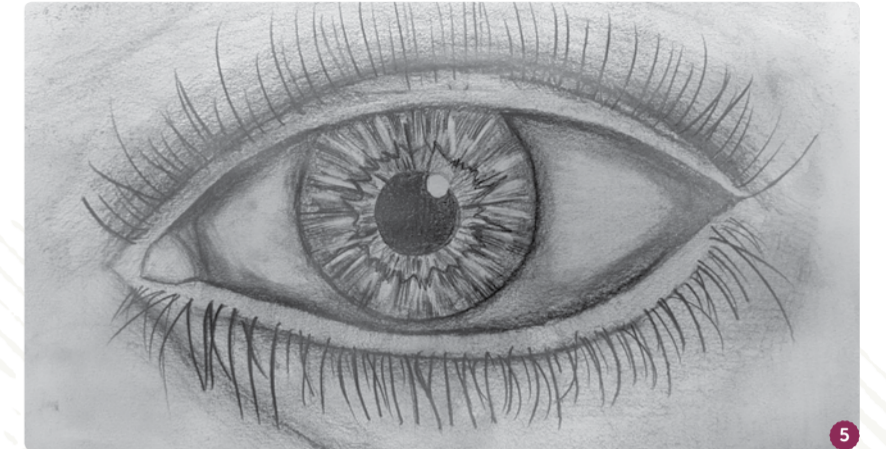
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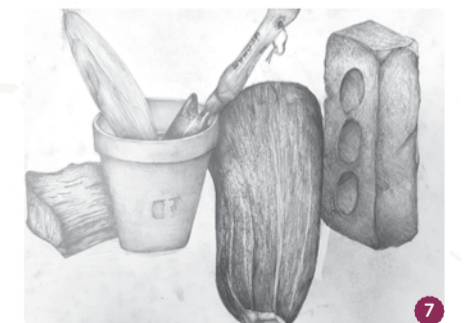
6



8



9



7

CAPTIONS

- 1 Archie Horsfield, 11OWT
- 2 Anna Reed-Purvis, 10EJK
- 3 Esther Tucker, 11SN
- 4 Dilan Mustafa, 7JRK
- 5 Amelie Lane, 9GMH
- 6 Eloise Baker, 7RJK
- 7 Emily Gibbins, 10TMJ
- 8 Harris Nadeem 7KMS
- 9 Abby Wilson, 7KMS

Singing Children of Africa

BGS student, Jaya Krishna, led a fantastic assembly with the Singing Children of Africa, as part of the charity's 2019 UK Tour, helping to raise funds for their education and other young people in Africa.

The Singing Children of Africa are a choir from Jolaurabi school in Kenya. The School is fully funded by the charity 'Educate the Kids', and every year the choir travels to the UK and performs around the country to raise money. It is a non-profit charity and funds go to the children for their uniforms, books and pens, breakfast, lunch and exam fees.

CAPTIONS

1 Jaya with the Singing Children of Africa

2 Youngsters learnt the art of storytelling from a popular author

3 European Day of Languages: Children make a traditional German gift

“...”

Sponsoring a child allows them to start school and pays for their breakfast and lunch every day

Sponsoring a child allows them to start school and pays for their breakfast and lunch every day. Every year a huge number of children from the village visit the UK.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT ...
educatethekids.com



Children enjoy European Day of Languages celebrations

Fifty-seven pupils from Menston Primary School enjoyed a morning of Modern Languages activities as part of the European Day of Languages celebrations in September. Pupils made a traditional German Schultüte (a gift given to children by their parents on their first day of school) and played the French game of 'boules'.

They learnt a song in Spanish, performed with actions at the end of the event and learnt facts about the Netherlands, in Dutch. Afterwards, all pupils had the opportunity to attend our European Market and spend their euros on games, activities and souvenirs from our French, German and Spanish stalls. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the event and the children went home with very happy memories of their morning at BGS.

Local schools enjoy visit from bestselling children's author

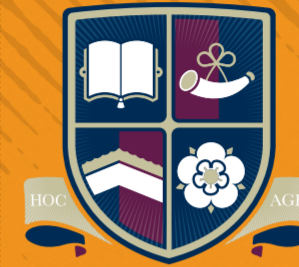
Youngsters from both BGS and local schools learnt the art of storytelling from bestselling children's author Ross Welford.

Cullercoats-born Welford, best known for his hit books 'Time Travelling with a Hamster' and 'The 1,000-Year-Old Boy', read from his books, and shared tips on developing characters and plots with pupils.

Welford's visit forms part of an outreach partnership programme with the Ilkley Literature Festival. Many pupils from local schools met Ross and had their books signed! Schools included Gleddings, Baildon C Of E, Tranmere Park, Eldwick, Ghyll Royd, Westville House, Moorfield, Harden and Froebelian.

Junior

Year



Bradford Grammar School

JUNIORS

AUTUMN 2019

TRIPS
EVENTS
SPORTS
RESIDENTIALS





Welcome

Our Junior School life is hugely enjoyable and busy. We are very proud of our section in this whole school magazine, which is published three times a year, at the end of each academic term.

JAN-APR

16 January
Medical Mavericks: Year 6 Science workshops

11 March
Year 2 trip to Lotherton Hall

19 March
House Music Competition

25 & 26 March
Parents' consultations

Date TBC
Spring Concert

3 April
Break up

20 April
Back in school

22-24 April
Year 5 Residential

22-24 April
Year 6 Residential

MAY-JUL

Date TBC
Spring Fair

5-7 May
Year 3 Residential

5-6 June
Year 2 Residential

9 June
Swimming Gala and Sports' Day

24 June
Grandparents' Day matinee performance of the School Production

25 & 26 June
School Production 6pm

1 July
Prize Giving

Please note: the Prize Giving event will take place during the afternoon, it will not be an evening event.



Bradford
Grammar
School
JUNIORS

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A new chapter

Clock House prides itself upon its welcoming nature, with pupils and staff helping new children to settle into new routines with ease.

This year, we interviewed Aiza G to find out about her experience in her first term at Clock House.

Did the transition make you feel nervous?

Yes, because it is a brand new experience and a level up from what I am used to.

In the following pages of 'Hoc Age', you will get a flavour of Junior School life – educational visits, artistic and sporting events and some of the more notable things our junior pupils get up to.

School life is hugely enjoyable and busy. This will give you a glimpse of some of the more unusual experiences I have had since the start of term.

On one occasion, I was called out of a meeting to be told that, in a blaze of fire, an alien craft of unknown origin had crashed onto the grass just beyond our playground. Fortunately no damage was done. Over the subsequent days there was much curious debate and speculation. Some of the Senior School scientists even came across to inspect it – but before conclusions could be reached, it was gone.

Assemblies are often a highlight of the week where we celebrate individual and group achievements and children are awarded stickers, certificates and trophies. It was somewhat disconcerting last month to be standing at the front only to see a sarcophagus being carried in at the back of the hall! This was to be a vital part of Year 5's Ancient Egypt Workshop event and turned out to be cardboard – but it was very realistic.

And, one early morning, I was walking along the corridor and came across a Roman soldier coming the other way, 'Salve'. An unusual sight in 21st Century Bradford, but a sign that European Languages Day had started.

Jane Disley
Junior Headmistress

How did you feel when nobody knew you?

At first, I felt like I was the odd one out because I was the only new girl that had arrived this year.

What was your first impression of this school?

My first impression was that it was huge because my old school was very small. I was also intrigued about all the facilities available including the swimming pool and the junior library.

Are you used to changing schools?

No, because I had stayed in the same school for over seven years.

Did you enjoy the new pupils' day?

Yes, because everybody was so warm and welcoming. That made me feel happy inside to know that everybody was so nice and friendly.

BY ASHALINA K, KHADIJAH N
AND ROOP H, YEAR 6

Dreaming of how I can make a difference

Ideas zooming through my mind like a rocket
Shooting for the stars
Creating a new destination
Over the moon to be on this journey
Victory is in sight
Exploring the unknown
Rocketing to the finish line
Yesterday has gone, the future has begun.

BY SAMARA K – RUNNER UP, YEAR 5 AND 6

Discovery

Deep in the darkest depths of the sea,
We find a whale with a humongous tail.

Inside the tombs of the ancient kinds,
We find paintings of lots of things.

Safely hidden beneath the ground,
We find diamonds all around.

Collecting shells along the beach,
We find a fossil the size of a peach.

Out of the angry, blustery, stormy skies,
We find lightning striking to our great surprise.

Voyaging through the vast open sea,
We find a fire blazing higher and higher.

Reaching out beyond the skies,
We find moons and stars and planets like Mars.

Yucky plants sticking to our feet,
We find healing medicines in things we eat.

BY ZAHRA R – WINNER, YEARS 3 AND 4

Ilkley Literature Festival

The Ilkley Literature Festival is held annually, usually in the autumn months.

Participants, aged from three to 12 years, compete in a fun and competitive poetry contest, as part of the Ilkley Literature Festival. Clock House pupils entered, and three successful pupils were named in the prize list. Sebastian R was the runner up in the Year 1 and 2 event and Zahra R was the winner in Years 3 and 4. Finally, the runner up of the Year 5 and 6 event was Samara K. Considering the volume of pupils applying, this is an impressive achievement.

BY MADDIE D AND JACOB H, YEAR 6



CAPTIONS

1 Participants, aged from three to 12 years, compete as part of a fun and competitive poetry contest

2 Clock House pupils entered, and three successful pupils were named in the prize list



A musical coincidence

Picture the scene: a Clock House teacher and pupil meet in a European airport under the most unlikely of circumstances.

As Mr Smith (Year 3 teacher) arrived at a Norwegian airport, after a fantastic holiday, the last thing he expected was to bump into a Clock House pupil. Lexi was playing the piano when she was overheard by Mr Smith in the airport lounge. She played six songs including; 'Friend Like Me' by Will Smith, 'Speechless' by Naomi Scott and 'All of Me' by John Legend.

Lexi began her musical journey with keyboard lessons when she was 10 (1 year ago). However, she had always wanted to play the piano and has finally started lessons in Year 6. Lexi learnt the keyboard in an unusual way. She used YouTube to train herself and can now play many songs, proving that this method works. Lexi has since commenced lessons at school (which are taught by Mr Sherlock) to improve her knowledge of the piano.

Lexi said, 'I just saw the piano and wanted to play.' As her flight was delayed, she was able to use the piano in the airport. Lexi said that she was a bit scared at first, but she then gained confidence. Mr Smith, who also heard Lexi, was really impressed by what he heard and thought that her playing was amazing! She was slightly more confident, as not everyone was standing and watching because they were in queues, but they did listen and most of them seemed impressed.

BY EMMA C AND LIBERTY P, YEAR 6



What is your goal for this sport?

My goal is to get on to the snowboarding team for the Winter Olympics one day.

Have you ever injured yourself badly doing the sport?

I have never injured myself badly in the sport and hopefully I never will.

Who introduced you to snowboarding?

My dad introduced me to snowboarding and encouraged me to give it a go. He took me to Snow Zone.

Do any members of your family snowboard?

My dad and brother also snowboard.

Have you ever been snowboarding on a real slope, if so where?

I have been snowboarding in Austria in the winter season and the snow felt much softer.

Do you have a snowboard and what colour is it?

I have a white, pink and red snowboard.

As you may have discovered, this winter sport opens opportunities for the future. If you have ever contemplated travelling to colder climates, such as New Zealand or Canada, becoming a snowboarding expert whilst you are young could offer you exciting prospects.

BY MILLIE M AND WILL M, YEAR 6

Star of the slopes!

At Clock House, we love to celebrate each other's achievements, both inside and outside of school.

Bree, Year 6, is a relatively new snowboarder, having taken up the winter sport around 18 months ago. She chatted with our junior journalists about her new and exciting hobby.

How long have you been snowboarding for?

I have been snowboarding for one year and five months.

Where do you snowboard?

I snowboard at Castleford Snow Zone.

What is your most advanced move or trick?

The Rail – where you slide up onto an elevated rail.

“...”
I saw the piano and wanted to play ...

Day in the Life of ...

Year 4 student, George

'This is my first day at Clock House. I was a bit nervous – but then that's understandable. My parents brought me to school and, with me being new, the school paired me up with buddies. It's their job to make sure I'm ok. They've picked some really good children to do this job. They're really friendly.

'Straightaway I wanted to know where the library was. I love libraries and I was very impressed when I saw the one here. It's amazing and you can just sit on a beanbag and read to your heart's content. As well as reading, I love singing, acting and dancing and they have so many clubs to choose from. I've also heard the trips are awesome and I can't wait to try those.

“...”
The lessons have been brilliant so far ...

'The lessons have been brilliant so far. I give them ten out of ten. It's how they're taught that makes them good. It's still academic but they teach in an exciting way rather than just telling you to write things down. The teachers are very nice.

'The food is great too. On my first day I had sausage and mash, with sweetcorn, and I sat with my 'buddy'. Then I signed up for the craft club and drama club.

'There wasn't one single thing which was bad about my first day. You don't want to be at school if you don't have a good time and I know I'm going to love this school. There are no cons about it. I mean, it literally looks like Hogwarts. It's just a great place.'

Day in the Life of ...

Year 6 student, Roop

'My parents drop me off at school at the drop off point at 8.15am and I go into the playground to play. I know there's always going to be someone there who will play with me and want to play a game that I will like as much as they will like. Mrs Merckx, who's in charge of the playground, then blows a whistle and we go through the gate.

'I go straight to the classroom and say good morning and unpack my bag so I've got everything ready. Sometimes we have assembly and it will be on different things, so one can be to talk about events which are happening, another will be about celebrations where they pick people from each class and talk about what they've achieved.

'The lessons are really good and they're 40 minutes long. I've been coming to Clock House since I was in Year 2 and I can remember one of the things I was concerned about was not being able to find my classroom. But I remember everyone was really welcoming and they helped me if I got lost.

'We don't learn in a "get your book out and write all this down" kind of way; we learn through activities that are really fun. We enjoy it so we learn it properly. My favourite lesson is English and I love reading books like the The Trials of Apollo with Percy Jackson.

'The times for lunch vary for each year group. We eat in the dinner hall in Senior School and Year 6 go across at 12.10pm. The food is really good. I like how they have vegetarian options or sandwiches. There are different sized tables in the dining hall – some are for four, some are for six, etc. When you're all in a line you always find someone to sit next to. It's really friendly. It's hard not to make friends when you're at school! We eat for about half an hour then we go out or to a club.

'Most of the clubs are from 12.30 or 12.45 but if you want to go at 12 the school will make you a packed lunch and you can choose what you have in it. I go to orchestra, flute group, netball and drama club and then journalism after school.

'The day ends at 3.20pm. Some people have after-care, but I go straight home. My favourite bit about school is playing with my friends. I would definitely recommend Clock House to others!'



CAPTIONS

1 All the way from Mombasa, Kenya, a joyful group of talented young singers had arrived on our very doorstep

Open Day

On Saturday 5 October, Open Day was held from 10am to 2pm. Parents and families from other schools visited as they were interested in sending their children to this school.

Current pupils acted as tour guides to show the visitors different areas of the school. Existing parents were on hand to support with refreshments and offer an insight into school life as we know it. There were also a few talented musicians who performed live to show off their talents. A highlight for the visitors was going to the outdoor classroom and making smores which are melted marshmallows, sandwiched between biscuits. All of the classrooms featured different activities for the visitors to enjoy. The design and technology classroom appealed to the practical and creative pupils who were able to construct things out of Lego.

Thank you to all of our fantastic volunteers who helped make this day a huge success.

BY THOMAS H AND BILAL A, YEAR 6

Kenyan Choir: So happy wherever they are

On Friday 4 October, a very special surprise was waiting for Clock House children. All the way from Mombasa, Kenya, a joyful group of talented young singers had arrived on our very doorstep.

At break time, the Clock House children played fun games and activities with the Kenyan choir which made them engage with each other and appreciate their different lifestyles. After break time, the magical ensemble performed, with their beautiful voices, to Clock House pupils and staff. The teachers were somewhat emotional afterwards and felt so privileged to have witnessed such joyful singing.

Unsurprisingly, everyone enjoyed being part of the audience and therefore asked the Kenyan singers to stay and teach 6A some of their rhythmic moves. After lunch, the Kenyan choir had to depart, and everyone was so sad that each class made them a farewell card. These cards had lovely messages and inspiring words written inside them thanking the children for such an unforgettable and magnificent performance.

BY ASHALINA K, ROOP H AND KHADIJAH N, YEAR 6

“...”

Unsurprisingly, everyone enjoyed
being part of the audience ...



Year 4 Residential

In October, Year 4 visited Robinwood Activity Centre and learnt all about the value of team work.

Their amazing instructors Fran, Jack and Rachel were exceptional, and students and staff returned full of happy memories and new friendships. Thank you to everyone involved.



1



2



3

South Africa Hockey tour

The 2019 Hockey Tour to South Africa was intense, enjoyable and educational in equal measure.

CAPTIONS

- 1 The 2019 Hockey Tour to South Africa was intense, enjoyable and educational in equal measure
- 2 The girls who represented BGS Hockey on the trip were an absolute credit to the school
- 3 The tour was packed from start to finish with training, fixtures and cultural activities
- 4 This term, Year 11 Geography students set off to investigate why Haworth is so vulnerable to flooding

The girls who represented BGS Hockey on the trip were an absolute credit to the school. They have developed a bond that is supporting them through the 2019-20 season, that couldn't have been created by anything other than the shared experience which the tour has given them.

The tour was packed from start to finish with training, fixtures and cultural activities. Some of the main highlights for the girls were visiting the Robben Island, the Apartheid Museum, Gold Reef City theme park, climbing Table Mountain, Aquila Game reserve and meeting with children from the Township.

The team were unlucky to lose three of the five games whilst on tour, particularly in the first fixture against Harlequins, Johannesburg. This game was an end-to-end battle in the last quarter but unfortunately, they missed out four to three. However, the team played an outstanding game against Bergvliet High School after climbing Table Mountain only hours before, showing true BGS resilience.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Hockey Parents' Association (HPA) for raising vital funds to support the tour.



4

Geography field trip

On Boxing Day 2015, residents of Haworth awoke to find that a huge hole had appeared in a pub wall, the railway was closed, and the main street was blocked. The cause? Flooding.

This term, Year 11 Geography students set off to investigate why Haworth is so vulnerable to this hazard. They began their journey in the town's remaining mill, where the owner of Wydean Weaving, Old Bradfordian Robin Wright, recounted tales of past floods, and gave some reasons why they occur in the Worth Valley. Armed with digital flowmeters, they stopped at various locations to collect primary evidence to help them solve the mystery. We also explore Haworth every February, when Mr Wright and Councillor Rebecca Poulsen help our Sixth Form students assess rural regeneration and sense of place.

World War I Battlefields

Year 11 Historians on their tour of the First World War were privileged to have their own personal tour of Tyne Cot Cemetery, from OB Matthew Cogan.

Matthew Cogan is spending part of his GAP year as an intern for the Commonwealth War Grave Commission (CWGC), before university. Inspired by his own Year 11 Battlefields Trip three years earlier, Matthew applied for one of these prestigious internships and is really enjoying the experience of helping visitors interpret the war memorials and cemeteries around the Ypres area. The 2019 Battlefields Tour also held a special ceremony in St Georges Garrison Church, Ypres, for the dedication of a plaque to the 219 OBs who died in the First World War, and to Sir Fabian Ware, former BGS master, who was instrumental in setting up the CWGC during the First World War.



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Spanish trip

On 28 October a group of 32 Year 10 and 12 pupils travelled to the region of Murcia to take part in a full immersion course at the Arbolar Centre.

The Spanish instructors at the centre led a wide range of engaging activities which included daily Spanish lessons, Latin dance, a cooking session and water sports, amongst others. The entire programme was conducted in Spanish and our pupils benefited from this linguistic immersion whilst soaking up the Spanish culture with a visit to a local market and the naval city of Cartagena. The group was praised by the Spanish instructors, who commented on their commitment and good understanding of the language as well as their positive approach to the subject. This trip provided an excellent opportunity to all involved to build on their language skills whilst working in a very relaxed and friendly environment.



4

CAPTIONS

- 1 The 2019 Battlefields Tour also held a special ceremony in St Georges Garrison Church
- 2 Matthew applied for his prestigious internship and is really enjoying the experience of helping visitors interpret the war memorials
- 3 Giving a personal tour of Tyne Cot Cemetery, near Ypres in Belgium
- 4 The entire programme was conducted in Spanish and our pupils benefited from this linguistic immersion whilst soaking up the Spanish culture ...



1



2

Rotterdam Hockey tour

CAPTIONS

1 Many pupils of the group are coming away from the tour saying they have been inspired to reach their potential

2 This was the groups first taste of Hockey abroad

3 We had great fun and returned feeling a real part of the BGS community

4 Year 8 pupils left the rain behind and enjoyed four sunny days on the Bay of Naples

The U14 hockey teams, boys and girls, set sail for Rotterdam for a five-night tour in Rotterdam, Holland.

This was the group's first taste of hockey abroad, and what better place to do it in none other than one of the hockey capitals of the world, Holland! It is also noteworthy that this was the first ever boys' hockey tour at BGS, a step in the right direction for boys' hockey. Pupils were able to develop their knowledge of the game and see what a professional environment looks like, by watching Premiership Dutch hockey players, train and compete in competitive matches. Many pupils came away from the tour saying they had been inspired to push onto reach their next level back in Yorkshire. Well done to all involved.



3

Year 7 Residential

The third week of our new school year saw the whole of Year 7 embark on their friendship-making residential to PGL Caythorpe Court in Lincolnshire.

We basked in glorious sunshine this time and enjoyed our 'glamping' experience. The days were busy with the pupils (and some of the more daring staff) taking part in team-building activities such as raft building and trapeze. The activities were varied to appeal to everyone, from those with two feet firmly on the ground like archery and orienteering, to those more adrenaline intense, like the giant swing which, judging by the screams heard, was not for the faint-hearted! Getting to know each other properly is much easier when done outside of the classroom and these three days together were so useful in helping to kick start Year 7. We had great fun and returned feeling a real part of the BGS community. Hoc Age!

Junior Classics trip

In October, a group of Year 8 pupils left the rain behind and enjoyed four sunny days on the Bay of Naples.

They climbed Mount Vesuvius and explored some of the sites the volcano bequeathed to us: Pompeii, Herculaneum and the villa at Oplontis.



4

Vecht racing in the Netherlands

We took a large group of 20 pupils for our annual four-day training camp in October.

Impressively the Junior 15 double scull (Hawthorne/Burns) won the J16 category against Dutch competition and the J15 Quad scull finished second. All pupils proved the benefits of this trip with performances improving with every outing on the water, something that the British weather conspired against for the rest of the Winter.

Journey to Ainsdale Sands

On 3 June 2019, we made our annual coach journey to Ainsdale Sands with the Year 12 biologists.

In the Biology department, we are strong believers in first-hand experience of environments to promote understanding. At Ainsdale, we saw sand dune succession in action. The students could see that over many years, bare sand could be transformed into a mighty oak woodland with the correct abiotic and biotic factors adapting the environment. Not only was this trip about taking the classroom outdoors but it was also a chance to complete one of the assessed practicals, which are a course requirement. The students collected data, drew kite diagrams and completed a biological drawing of sea holly.

Although hard work and resilience were required due to the windy conditions, no trip to the beach would be complete without an ice cream for the return journey.