

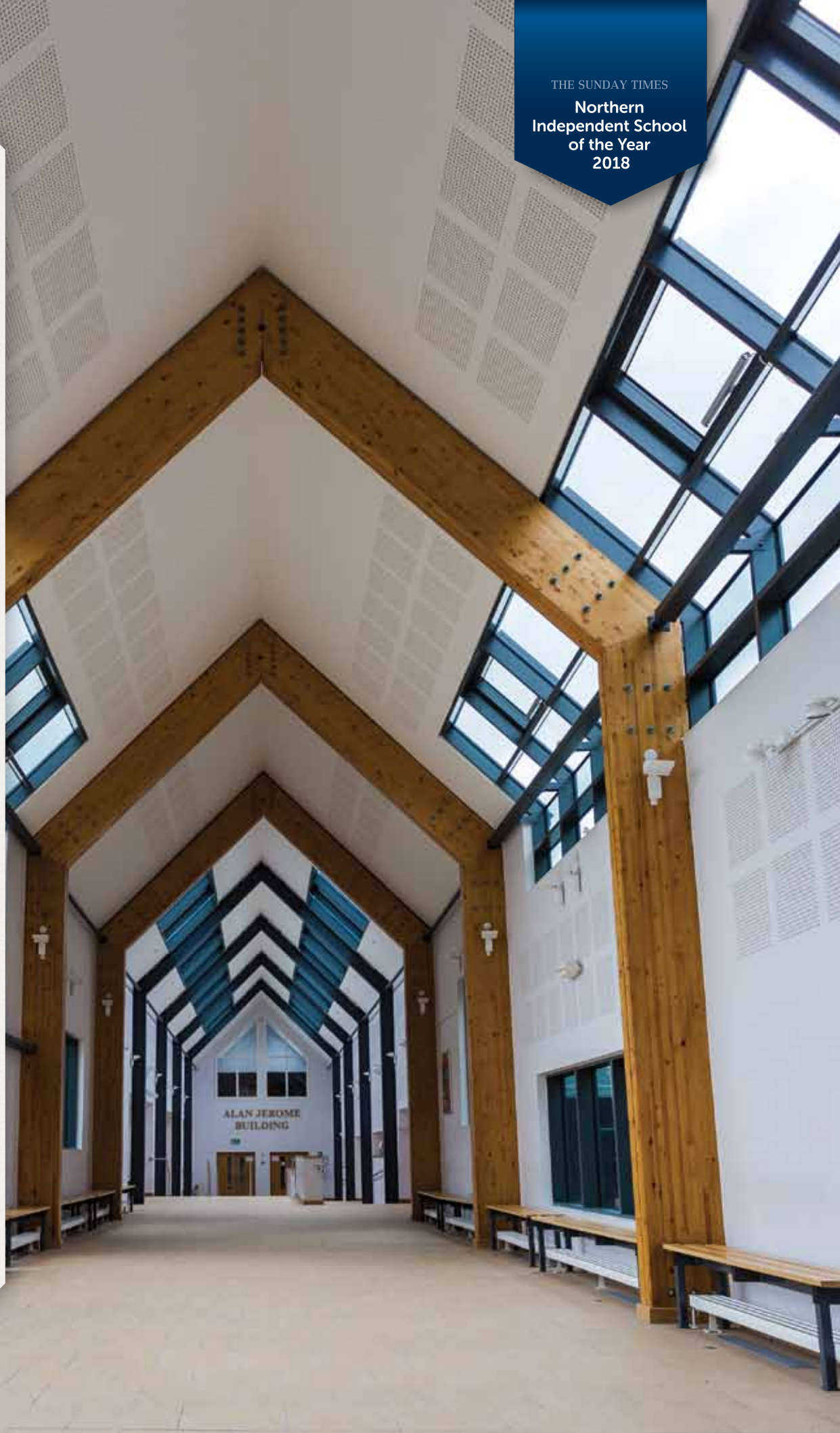


Bradford
Grammar
School

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Northern
Independent School
of the Year
2018





Education is liberation.

Dr Simon Hinchliffe

Headmaster

Extract from Speech Day 2019

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From the Headmaster ...

It is my pleasure to introduce this latest edition of our whole school publication, 'The Bradfordian'.

I hope you enjoy reading all that follows as much as I did. Many thanks to everyone, students and BGS colleagues, who make this excellent publication possible.

BGS is in robust good health. Students are respected, their welfare, intellectual and personal development are our priorities. We value scholarship and application to one's studies and a host of 'super-curricular' activities. Exam results remain strong, reflecting both a love of learning and, let's be honest, much hard work from everybody. Additionally, co-curricular programmes are thriving. Volunteering, the arts and sport, for example, reflect our liberal values and keen sense of proportion. We continue to nurture capable, decent young people of character: individuals ready to play a full role in the world beyond our gates.

We are proud to offer such a rich and empowering education and remain grateful to BGS families for their support. We also extend our sincere thanks to our benefactors, whose generosity enables BGS to extend such transformative opportunities to the widest possible cross-section of families. We are always seeking to make a difference to all our students, inspiring young minds across West and North Yorkshire and fostering social integration and mobility. In so doing, we are investing in the future of our school, county and country for everyone's benefit.

For our students, a connection to BGS can be lifelong. In April, a hugely successful Old Bradfordians (OBs) 1940/50s Reunion saw OBs mingle with Governors, teachers and pupils to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the opening of the current school campus by Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh. Conversation flowed, memories were exchanged, and music, fine food and drink were enjoyed. Additionally, it being a 'normal' school day, OBs were once again able to experience an end of term assembly in the Price Hall. Looking ahead, the academic year, starting September 2019, will mark another significant anniversary: twenty years since BGS became fully coeducational and 35 years since Bradford Grammar School (BGS) first welcomed girls through its

doors. Anniversaries such as these illustrate how schools can evolve whilst remaining true to their core values. BGS is secure and traditional in many respects, but never afraid to innovate. Our forthcoming coeducational anniversary signals that BGS is not timid about moving forward with the times.

Being part of the BGS family is something very special. We face challenges, but remain true to our heritage, champion the virtues of scholarship and strive to be an asset in our community. In so doing, we continue to enact our shared vision for the future of BGS, and model whole school values of excellence, compassion, determination, opportunity and service. We do so without fuss, without airs and graces, in a Hoc Age 'get on and do it' fashion. The pages that follow attest to the many lives lived well at our school, guided as ever by our abiding motto.

Simon Hinchliffe

Dr Simon Hinchliffe
BA, MEd, PhD, FRSA
Headmaster



Speech Day 2019 Headmaster's Speech

Vice Lord-Lieutenant, High Sheriff, Lady Morrison, Ashley Metcalfe, Honoured Guests, Governors, Ladies and Gentlemen and members of the school. Please allow me to add my words of welcome to those of Lady Morrison, our Chairman of Governors, who I would also like to thank for her opening address. I remain deeply grateful to our Chairman and the Board of Governors for the support they provide to the school and to me, its Headmaster.

I have now completed three years and two terms as the 29th Headmaster of this iconic school. Most of my hair has now fallen out and youthful good looks are but a distant memory! Well, I say 'good looks' ... perhaps I'm stretching a point ... and my memory is not what it was. I am grateful nonetheless to the Board for the significant contribution they make to BGS, thank you all; and it remains a great honour to lead this wonderful school.

...

Speech Day 2019
Headmaster's Speech

A question, if I may? What is the point of education?

To answer such a profound question, I did what most of the young folk in this room would do. After much deliberation and a little procrastination ... I consulted Google! The uppermost link, the first thing Google pushed my way and tried to get me to do was to buy something. To purchase a book to be precise, a book which suggested that the purpose of education, and I quote, is to provide:

'Knowledge to get by ... [and, developing the point, that] ... schools need to provide students with the knowledge they need to be functional adults in their day-to-day lives.'

That was it, the first, top hit of my world wide web search.

Well, I don't know about you, but: 'knowledge to get by' to be 'functional' (groan). Not the stuff of legend. Okay, to be honest, some mornings when looking at myself in the mirror I will settle for 'functional', and just 'getting by' can, on 'one of those days', be a great achievement. However, that said, please forgive me for feeling distinctly underwhelmed. That is why, girls and boys, you should not rely upon Google alone for top homework grades. You can do better, and on this occasion, I tried harder too. I doubled my efforts, and bravely I clicked on the second link down.

This time a trusted source flashed into action on my screen, namely... the UK Government; or more accurately its online iteration: www.gov.uk. Staying faithful to my source, this Government link allows me to now quote from a speech given by Minister of State at the Department for Education, Nick Gibb, who said:

'Education is the engine of our economy, it is the foundation of our culture, and it's an essential preparation for adult life.'

Okay, we are getting somewhere. This is an improvement, at least to my mind.

Ministerial gravitas and punch give this conception of learning a little more life, some much appreciated oomph! 'The foundation of our culture': these words strike to the core of something substantial and meaningful, something to do with our essential identity, our connection to each other and the world around us. Our sights have been raised. But me, being a one-time questioning, occasionally chippy academic, I never accept anything a priori. Rather than talking about 'preparation for adult life, I would simply have said 'life', as I believe the learning undertaken at school is part of a thread that runs continuously, unbroken through all our years. This is where an understanding of school life as an integral part of lifelong learning comes to the fore.

'Engine of our economy': this was the first image in the quote. Education has utility, that is undoubtedly true. But is that really the first thing that could and should be said about the purpose of our education system in the UK? A preparation and proving ground for future workers? Is this the point of education? There is a heathy debate to be had here. Education must both reflect and sustain economy and society in many varied and fundamental ways. However, the Gradgrindian, production line language of Nick Gibb's quote bothers me, in part because this understanding is increasingly pervasive. Can our sights be raised higher still? I think they can.

At BGS 'we believe that an inspiring education can change lives fundamentally for the better ... education kindles an intellectual and emotional response from students, encourages insight and curiosity, fosters physical and mental wellbeing, and provides the tools, moral code and good manners to make a valuable contribution to society. It enthuses and equips young people with aspiration, confidence and resilience, to make a difference at school and in later life'. Where do these words come from? The answer is the BGS vision for education expressed in our Strategic Plan, a document that is shared with all colleagues at the start of every year and again in the early spring when it is refreshed.

And these are more than words, they are statements of aspiration and intent, lived out in the daily routine at our school. On days like these, when we slow down and take stock, the bigger picture is revealed. According to Irish poet, William Butler Yeats:

'Education is not the filling of a pail but the lighting of a fire' – that is the point.

Education is liberation.

Over many years BGS has had a profound influence internationally, in the UK and, of course, much closer to home, not least here in Bradford. We continue to provide a rich and empowering education to the young people in our community. Working with parents, our partners and benefactors, we nurture healthy minds, bodies and spirits.

That BGS community is both diverse and cohesive, two descriptors that you do not always see in one sentence, but they fit with respect to our school. Moreover, this image is true for much of our history. In the modern era, 1926 to be precise, during the headship of Dr W Edwards, BGS opted to receive direct grant funding from the then Board of Education, providing a significant percentage of free places for local boys to benefit from an academic education.

Later, under the auspices of the Butler 1944 Education Act, the long serving Chairman of Governors, Douglas Hamilton, ensured that, by the 1950s, BGS was well-established as a large direct-grant boys' grammar school of 1,000 pupils, one of 179 such schools reformed under the Act. This arrangement provided a generous supply of able pupils funded by Bradford and West Riding Local Education Authorities, alongside fee-paying pupils selected by the school's own entrance examination. It was through arrangements such as these that schools like BGS quickly became characterised as 'engine houses of social mobility', melting pots where a range of pupils form all kinds of backgrounds were treated equally and aspired to great things together.

Direct grant provision was abolished in 1975 with a change of Government and overwhelmingly, facing difficult choices, direct grant schools elected for independence going forwards. The Assisted Places Scheme that replaced direct grant arrangements, and to which BGS belonged from the 1980s, was removed in 1997. In response, many independent schools like BGS strained hard to develop their own bursary funds to mimic Assisted Places and thus safeguard the diversity in their classrooms and hold true, as far as practicalities allowed, to the fine detail and ethos of their charitable foundations. Such provision remains, at both BGS and nationally, and is increasing in both contexts.

It is through such arrangements that schools like ours balance our communities as we work to provide the very best education and opportunities for everyone. Of course, we would always wish to do more, and we will. That is our ongoing ambition for BGS – improved education and access – it is who we are, inseparable from our heritage and identity.

I make these observations during a week in which privilege and elites are being debated in the media, fuelled by the latest Sutton Trust research and a certain Tory leadership contest. The news of this week builds on longer running narratives. Earlier this year, the Social Mobility Commission, reworking Office for National Statistics data, reported that social mobility in Britain has been 'virtually stagnant' for the past five years. This finding came as evidence from the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) reported on international data showing that the 'middleclass has shrunk'. The OECD said that almost 63 percent of baby boomers in the UK were part of middle-income households in their twenties compared with only 59 percent of millennials today. Generational contraction of Britain's middle class, revealed.

So, various reports, one describing a decline of the middle classes and the others reporting a continued stagnation of social mobility and of elites resistant to change. A less than virtuous circle with far reaching implications, not least for fee dependent, independent schools. I am not saying there isn't a very real issue here. But independent education, BGS style, remains a very poor proxy for privilege and the argument that removing schools like ours from the UK landscape will somehow miraculously make other schools, and the circumstances of some groups in society, better, is misguided. We wait for a comprehensive discussion about fairness and opportunity in Britain, dialogue that will address the chronic underfunding of our state schools and various other aspects of inter-related social, transport and housing policy that impact directly on the prospects of British youth. We wait for an informed conversation that reflects practical realities and not entrenched ideologies.

Today however, whilst soundbites fly, grenade like, somewhere out there ... I cast my gaze closer to home and get on with the job at hand. I remain fiercely proud of our school and our commitment to providing an outstanding education to children from all kinds of families in our catchment. Our community matters to us.

Manningham Youth Talks and Linking Network activities, involving Sixth Formers and Year 8 students respectively, from both BGS and neighbours Oasis Academy, have continued to foster shared understandings and friendship between our two schools. Additionally, Year 7s have visited Chellow Heights Special School every week to join the children for lunchtime play. All of this is part of our growing partnership activity with other local schools that enriches many young lives and enables us all to do something worthwhile in our local area.

Opportunities for volunteering in the Sixth Form, through paired reading and Maths mentoring programmes at Heaton Primary School, paired reading at Frizinghall Primary and Shipley C of E Primary, and sports coaching at St Philip's Girlington, are growing in number. BGS volunteers also work with Age UK, mentor children from refugee families at Bevan House and support Barnardo's Young Carers on Thursday evenings. Our popular Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award programme in Years 9 and 10 also provides a framework for community service for younger age groups at school.

Clearly, we work with partners off site, but they come here too, as they did this year when we hosted 38 local schools for a Brownlee Triathlon event and more recently 35 schools at the Bradford School Games, our Sixth Formers volunteering their support on both occasions helping roughly 2,000 local children enjoy sport at BGS. And I cannot move on without mentioning the moon rocks that fired up children here at base, and in orbit at nearby junior schools, or our masterclass for young string musicians locally.

Our community orientation goes further. Year 8 raised £202 for Lymphoma Action; Years 7 and 9 raised £390 for Bevan House; the Sixth Form raised £317 for Neesie (a platform for single mums and their children) and £275 for Presents for Syria. They also collected underwear to send to Africa, through Smalls for All. A senior school Christmas Jumper Day raised £755 for Save the Children. Ten percent of proceeds from the Christmas Fair and Fashion Show were donated to Behind Closed Doors. During the Spring Term, a non-uniform day and blue mug collection for Mary's Meals raised £1,550 (doubled by the Department for International Development as part of their Double the Love initiative, thus providing enough money to fund 223 children's school dinners for a year). Finally, the BGS (Rotary) Interact Club has continued to meet every fortnight, and this year they have raised over £4,000 for their three chosen charities, namely the World Wildlife Foundation, National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and Bradford Nightstop, a charity which helps Bradford's young homeless people.

Speech Day 2019

Headmaster's Speech continued ...

These examples are by no means exhaustive. The list goes on, reflective of whole school values of compassion and service. BGS is not alone in modelling such behaviour. The Independent Schools Council's (ISC) most recent 2019 annual census, informed that 84 percent of members are involved in partnership work with state schools, most frequently involving sport, the performing arts or 'vulnerable' subjects, like physics, modern languages and music, under threat nationally. Additionally, the census reported that £15 million was raised last year for charities and that over two thirds of ISC schools organise opportunities for volunteering. Our schools stand up as beacons of liberal values; we are principled and do great work. BGS students are fantastic young people, they do good things. Let us hold to these truths as the hurricane of current debate blusters on.

And breathe ...

By way of a few closing remarks, I would like to thank my excellent colleagues in all departments at school;ww support staff and teachers, whose ongoing commitment to the students at BGS is staggering and frankly, humbling to witness. Whatever their role, they make a difference.

Today we also say goodbye to some colleagues.

We start with a special mention for Diane O'Donnell, formally Gregory, who will be leaving BGS after nineteen years of loyal service. Diane currently works in learning support, but she has been involved in many areas of school life including after care and catering. Diane, thank you for everything you have done.

Beverley Davidson, English, and Susannah Williams, Chemistry, leave at the end of fixed term contracts; the same is true for Sports Graduate Assistants Luke Callaghan, Lydia Walker, Nick Honey and Giles Flatt. We offer our sincere thanks to you all, and to our Netball Coach, Vanessa Walker who departs to be closer to family in the Caribbean.

There is nothing wrong with Yorkshire of course, so speaks the local lad at the lectern, but further opportunities overseas have called and John Oakes, Sport, and Ruth Thompson, English and former Head of Year 12, have answered. If we include Loretta Gibbons, Modern Languages, who retires this year, collectively these three colleagues have served BGS for nearly fourteen years, roughly in equal proportion. Thank you, John, Ruth and Loretta.

Deborah Mouat, Chemistry, retires this year having devoted 12 years to BGS. A first-class teacher and supporter of school drama productions, Deborah has also contributed to the professional development of many new entrants into our profession as an Initial Teacher Training Coordinator. Her positive impact therefore, has extended far beyond BGS. Josie Barraclough, our charismatic and inspirational Head of Art, retires after 16 years. Suzy Palmer, Head of Learning Strategies, has supported colleagues to meet the specific needs of many students at BGS, and in so doing helped steer school culture in a very positive direction; Suzy leaves us for promotion after 17 years. Seventeen is also the number of years invested in BGS by Phillipa Dunn who will retire at the end of the year. A model Head of Department, in 1988 Phillipa was the first ever female teacher to join the Biology Department. Good luck to you all and thank you.

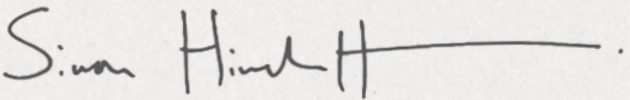
Traditionally we tend not mention colleagues who are leaving the Junior School at this gathering, not because we don't like them you understand (!), but rather because Clock House Speech Day is the time and place for such things. Today I am making an exception. Paul Smales retires at the end of this year after 21 years at BGS. His Design and Technology classroom is one of my favourite places at school, an Aladdin's cave loved by the children. Kerry Howes has risen through the ranks at BGS over the course of 16 years. Kerry leaves as the outgoing Headmistress of the Junior School and I am personally grateful to her for the leadership she has provided to Clock House, including as Deputy Head, and also for the support she has given me since my own arrival at BGS in 2014.

Finally, BGS man and boy, BGS to the bone, Tim Bateson retires after 30 years teaching at his alma mater. What to say about Tim, and his fashion choices? Life needs a little colour and Tim has provided it in various ways over many years. His commitment to BGS values and to our students has stood the test of time. Tim, thank you; and I hope we will have the pleasure of your company at Old Bradfordian social events for many years to come.

I wonder if you might join with me in a well-earned round of applause for our staff leavers, 2019.

It has been a busy year. We have made progress and achieved much with the support of our BGS families, to whom we are sincerely grateful. Exciting new sports developments have appeared on our campus and we thank Andrew Southey from SDA Architects and Rob Moon from Bernar Construction for delivering such a fantastic project.

In less public, not quite so architecturally bright orange ways, (which I love by the way, Andrew), we continue to innovate and attend to the quality of the education we provide; whilst also fine-tuning our wider portfolio of activity, for example involving Old Bradfordians with whom we recently celebrated the seventieth anniversary of the opening of this building. Next year we mark the twentieth anniversary of BGS going fully co-educational, another landmark to come in the story of this great, but ultimately grounded, Yorkshire school.



Dr Simon Hinchliffe
BA, MEd, PhD, FRSA
Headmaster

Staff Leavers

Diane O'Donnell

By L Croudson, Head of Learning Strategies

Diane came to BGS in 2000 as a Catering Assistant in the Dining Hall and was then was promoted to After School Care Supervisor and Playground Assistant at Clock House.

During this time, she forged caring and nurturing relationships with the children that she looked after. They were always delighted to see her, and she had a great rapport with them. In addition, she was a strong link with the parents as they trusted Diane with their children and knew that they would be in good hands. Many of her former pupils have gone on to the Senior School and when they saw her around school they would always greet her with a smile and a wave.

Diane moved to the Senior School to become the Learning Support Assistant on a full-time basis and was a valuable member of the department. If anyone could be in three places at once, with three children who all needed her help, Diane could do it. Supporting students, continuing to strengthen existing relationships and building new ones, were key roles – the administration which needed doing seemed to miraculously disappear as she had already done it. In addition to her day-to-day roles, Diane offered to help with the Sixth Form enrichment programme by supporting the sign language lessons and then tried to teach the rest of the Department – chicken wings were always a favourite!

Indeed, she always wanted to learn to speak Spanish so that she could talk to native speakers in her holiday home of Tenerife. Perhaps she will now have the time to do that – amongst looking after her grandchildren and travelling in her mobile home. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Diane for her outstanding contribution in supporting the wellbeing of children at BGS and to wish her well for the future.



Kerry Howes

By the Junior Leadership Team, (JLT)

Where to begin – Miss Howes' sterling teaching career at Bradford Grammar Junior School began when she joined Clock House as a teacher in September 2003.

Rarely has there been a member of the Clock House team with such commitment and dedication to the school, and, in January 2014, Miss Howes' hard work, drive and acumen were recognised when she was promoted to Director of Teaching and Learning. Not long after that, in January 2016, Miss Howes was promoted once again to Deputy Head of Clock House and then later in the same year, she was appointed to the position of Acting Headmistress. Her promotion to Headmistress was celebrated in September 2017.

Having risen through the ranks and reaching the top, during the Spring term of 2019, Miss Howes decided to take some time to evaluate where next her strengths would be best utilised.

We know that the outdoors is one of Miss Howes' true loves, so we were not surprised to learn that this is where her heart and future lie. Her legacy at Clock House will undoubtedly be related to her huge efforts and enthusiasm for ensuring that our Junior School pupils have a wonderful outdoor learning space. The Clock House playground and woodland outdoor classroom are second to none and would not exist without Miss Howes' visionary approach to the creation of these very special places.

In Miss Howes' own words: 'My life has been the true example of never giving up. Whatever your ambition is in life, if you keep working hard there are always ways of experiencing different opportunities. Resilience and determination have stood me in good stead and in my wildest dreams I never thought I would be a Headmistress.'

With Miss Howes' wise words in mind, we would like her to know that she will be greatly missed by the Clock House community. We wish her all the very best in her future endeavours and hope that she will excel in her future career just as she did during her time in Clock House. All that is left to say is – 'more time outdoors and less time in meetings'. A mantra we could all benefit from.

Thank you, Miss Howes.



Shelby Deal

By L Hanson and S Taylor

Shelby made a huge contribution to the English and Drama Department here at BGS.

Coming in as an apprentice, she settled quickly, learned even more quickly. It soon became clear she had talent and imagination for set building and creating displays. The sets she created for Jim Cartwright's 'Two' and John Arden's 'Live Like Pigs' were to a professional standard and impressed staff, cast members and audiences. Shelby also assisted GCSE and A Level pupils with stage designs for their examination pieces and did a fine job assisting with the filming and recording of performances.

She enjoyed all the training she received and as well as creating sets and used a range of machinery to make fantastic props, fashion show catwalks and Santa's grottos. Her attention to detail was fantastic. When not building things she was working in the Design Department where she was a fantastic support for our students through their project work, tracking grades and keeping the facility in good shape. We are so glad that she started her working life with us and she made a huge impact on the department. Her impact didn't finish there! She helped out on the middle school ski trip to France and would spend her holidays teaching Zumba in Tenerife, where she spent her sabbatical. She left BGS to follow her passion for travel and we wish her all the best and a safe journey where ever it takes her.

Paul Smales

By the Junior Leadership Team (JLT)
and the Junior Journalists

It is with sadness and
fondness that we say
goodbye to Mr Smales
who retired at the end
of the summer term.

Mr Smales’ passion for design and technology (DT) and music has benefitted Clock House pupils for over 20 years. His dedication and enthusiasm for the subject has inspired his pupils over the years: his creative and insightful lessons here focussed on designing an array of impressive models including robots, toy cars, clocks and alarms, to mention but a few.

During the Clock House prize giving event, our guest speaker, Old Bradfordian Hamish Irvine, was presented with a model robot that he had created with Mr Smales when he was a pupil at Clock House; it was clear to see the delight on his face and the fond memories it brought back.

Mr Smales will be missed, not only for his creativity in design but also, for his incredible wealth of musical knowledge and talent. He inspired hundreds of pupils to take up musical instruments and perform in school concerts in the Price Hall.



Our junior journalists interviewed Mr Smales for an article in the school’s Junior Hoc Age magazine to find out all about his illustrious career both before and since joining Bradford Grammar School. This is what they discovered:

- The first instrument Mr Smales played was the flute, although he is now accomplished in the piccolo, oboe, clarinet and saxophone.
- Interestingly, James Galway inspired him to begin playing.
- His dream career as a child was to become a builder.
- Mr Smales has previously been an engineer, hence his passion for Design and Technology.
- A favourite DT project while Mr Smales was teaching at Clock House was the Year 6 project ‘Battle of the Robots’.
- His desire to teach came initially from teaching music. He then decided to teach junior school pupils and become a full-time teacher.
- His hobbies include DIY: no surprise there!
- His proudest achievement to date is playing for Princess Anne at the Alhambra Theatre.
- He won Bradford’s ‘Spotlight on Talent’ competition three years in a row.

This only leaves us to wish Mr Smales the fondest of farewells and our very best wishes for the future, spending time with his family and becoming a grandfather for the first time.

All the very best Mr Smales. You will be much missed by everyone in the BGS community.



Tim Bateson

By J Chapman, Assistant Head (Pastoral)

Tim spent 39 years of his life at BGS. As a boy he lived just over the road at the bottom of Emm Lane and attended the school for nine years before gaining a place to read Classics at The Queen’s College, Oxford in 1980.

He lingered in Oxford beyond his four-year course, doing post-graduate research into Magic in Roman Egypt, and learning Coptic en route, before the call to return to his roots proved too strong to ignore, and he returned to school in 1989 to take up a job teaching Latin and Greek.

Tim is a very capable Classicist with a considerable depth of knowledge in both language and literature, and a penchant for teaching the less obvious where he can. His teaching style was traditional, his investment in the pupils clear, and he has inspired many BGS boys and girls to take classical subjects on into the Sixth Form, and beyond. Tim also taught Ancient History A Level and over the past 10 years delivered Classical Civilisation modules too, from Homer and Virgil to Classical Comedy and latterly Athenian Democracy. He worked for OCR for 20 years, twelve of them as Principal Examiner for the Latin prose composition paper. But so much of his contribution to school has extended far beyond the Classics department.

More importantly, he was Head of Higher Education for 16 years and had been the Assistant HE adviser for three years before that. Despite the stresses of processing university applications in the Autumn Term, Tim really enjoyed this role. What he particularly liked about the job was that he was involved with every single student in the year group – so that for almost two decades no one left the Sixth Form without having been helped through their university application by Tim.

Tim was involved with the Debating Society from the moment he arrived, and ran it for 29 years, giving up hours to after school coaching, weekly debates, and weekend competitions, even taking his senior debaters on tour to Italy once in the mid-90s. A friend and mentor to generations of shy, earnest gamers but also to confident, high-profile, articulate debaters – very different student profiles but with a shared affection and admiration for Mr B.

So, what does retirement hold for Mr Bateson? I know that he is going to make the most of it and enjoy himself. He is taking up Tai Chi. He intends to give more time to walking and more time to gaming. He has not held a passport for many years, so I had assumed that foreign travel probably wouldn’t be on the cards, but he surprised me by telling me that had applied for one – so who knows where that may take him? I am pleased to say that he won’t be a stranger to BGS (plans are already afoot to have him back to judge debating competitions).

BGS wishes Tim a long, healthy and happy retirement.

And I am pleased to say that he won’t be a stranger to BGS (plans are already afoot to have him back to judge debating competitions).

I know you will all join me in wishing Tim a long, healthy and happy retirement.

Phillipa Dunn

By Z Thornton, Biology teacher

Phillipa dedicated 19 years of her career to teaching at BGS She began teaching at the school in 1988, alongside her husband Steve. However, after a few years she decided to take a step back and left to spend more time with her young family.

Eventually, the lure of the classroom and the love of her subject was just too tempting, and it brought her back to the school for a second time in 2002, becoming Head of the Biology Department in 2005, until her retirement.

It was under her expert guidance that the department rose to being one of the best performing and most popular within the school. In fact, on occasion the Biology Department has been described as the being a ‘Rolls Royce’ department. As a Head of Department, Phillipa was not only an excellent classroom practitioner and inspiration to the students, but also a champion of her staff. I can honestly say that I would not be the teacher I am today without her expert guidance and mentoring. She would challenge us to be better and support us in anything that we decided to pursue.

Her commitment to the school extended beyond the confines of the classroom. Phillipa was instrumental in founding the hockey programme at BGS. One of the students recalled that at one time she was the coach, umpire, bus driver and everything else in between. She would often be found outside on the hockey pitch on a lunchtime and on a Saturday, almost every year, until she hung up her boots in 2017.

This was another aspect of the job that Phillipa ingrained in us; the importance of life outside the classroom. She was an avid supporter of the extra-curricular programme and supported countless Bronze and Gold Duke of Edinburgh expeditions and trips. Her final trip was a residential overseas visit with the Art Department to Amsterdam, where she led a cross-curricular visit to the Body Worlds Exhibition. Phillipa understood the importance of departments working together to reach a shared goal and celebrated her colleagues’ excellence and passion for their own subjects. Another volunteer role that Phillipa was passionate about was her link to the Old Bradfordians Association; attending countless meetings to establish and maintain relationships with those students that had left.

It was an honour to work alongside such a professional, academic and exemplary teacher as Phillipa. She embodied the school’s motto ‘Hoc Age’ and she will be missed by all the staff and students. We wish her a long and happy retirement and thank her for all that she has done.



Julie Smales

By J Chapman, Assistant Head (Pastoral)

Julie joined BGS in September 2000. Her husband Paul had joined Clock House two years earlier and when a job came up in the Senior School, he encouraged her to apply for the position of secretary to the Senior Tutor.

At the time, the school’s secretarial team consisted of only two other secretaries, supporting the Heads of Junior and Senior Schools, so Julie’s arrival took the administrative team up to a grand total of three. Her financial background (working first for a building society and then as a financial secretary at a local primary school) gave her the skills needed to run the new school bus service, which also started in 2000, and which she oversaw as it grew from a single bus (the BB1) to a fleet of nine.

Julie’s management of the buses went far beyond dealing with routine budgeting, correspondence and bus passes. She developed expert knowledge of the fine details of each route and (with careful research on Google maps) could hold conversations with bus companies and parents about the pros and cons of drop off and pick up points. She worked tirelessly to provide the best service she could for the school community.

After a year based in the little room behind reception, she was relocated to the Heads of Years’ office to support the pastoral team. She quickly became an essential part of this team, supporting the pastoral and safeguarding work of BGS and becoming a trusted colleague and friend to the Heads of Year and Nurses. As well as a wide range of pastoral administration tasks, Julie stepped up to help with trips, induction days,

sponsored walks, and saved BGS parents a lot of money by negotiating with the local rail companies and creating bespoke BGS travel passes. She also designed the layout of the new Heads of Year Room when they moved across the corridor to the refurbished Room 16 (formerly a Physics laboratory). Her involvement with Junior Chamber International (JCI) Bradford, over 15 years, collecting chocolate eggs for their Easter Egg Appeals and Christmas gifts for their annual Secret Santa Appeal, was a labour of love which made a difference to hundreds of disadvantaged children in Bradford.

Julie is now enjoying retirement with Paul, but is not idle. She continues to bake her wonderful cakes and to run handicraft activities on cruise ships. She is also enjoying life as a grandmother, since their daughter Emma (OB 2009) gave birth to Benjamin earlier this year.



Helen Neill

By G Woods, Assistant Head (Curriculum)

Helen joined Bradford Grammar School in 2013 as our Examinations Officer from Penistone Grammar School, where she had filled the same position. She was the School’s first full-time dedicated Examinations Officer, as the role had until then been taken by a member of the teaching staff.

It immediately became clear that Helen was a class act and that we were very fortunate indeed to have her working for us. Running a public examinations service in this day and age requires a punctilious approach, a real eye for detail and a dedication to the task in hand – and Helen has all these qualities in spades. The role is an all year round one, with particular times in the examinations cycle devoted to certain examination functions (gathering information from teaching staff, making entries, dealing with pupils’ queries, administering the exams, processing results, and so on).

Helen brought with her an in-depth knowledge of the whole examinations cycle and she was always on top of the detail required to ensure that our candidates received a superb service. She was unflappable; in the heat of the examinations season, with eight different exams happening at the same time in the Price Hall, four other venues with different exams all of different length taking place, one candidate in the nurse’s room feeling ill, another one not having arrived for a morning exam (thinking it was in the afternoon) and another one insisting to an invigilator that there was definitely an error on the exam paper, Helen knew instantly what to do. She always knew what was the most pressing matter, and always coped admirably with a demanding workload.

Helen continued to live in Penistone in South Yorkshire whilst working at BGS, and over time the travelling to and from work every day took its toll. When a comparable position came up at King Edward VII School in Sheffield, Helen felt that she had to apply for the job. I knew that she would be offered it, and indeed she was. She deliberated long and hard but the reduced commute to Sheffield was a big draw. I know that Helen loved her time working at BGS, and that she misses the school to this day. We all miss her too – her hard work, her in-depth knowledge of the exams system, her friendly smile and her caring nature and personal warmth.

Thank you, Helen, for all that you did for BGS over the five years that you worked here.



Josie Barraclough

By S Horsfield, Head of Art

Josie Barraclough, it would be fair to say, has always been involved in the world of art. She completed her earlier years studying art locally at Batley Art College, Huddersfield University and Bretton and completed an Art Foundation Diploma specialising in textiles and graphics.

She followed these years of training by pursuing a career in design and illustration which took her as far afield as Australia. Not only did she continue with her own work but Josie's endless energy supported her interest in becoming a fitness coach. When she returned to England, Josie continued with her Creative Design Business alongside working for the Home Office.

Moving her interests into teaching, Josie taught in a wide range of schools locally, including an artist in residence placement at Heckmondwike Grammar School.

Josie entered the Art Department at BGS in 2003, bringing fresh ideas and energy, and of course, always known for her alternative playlists booming out and a love for dancing around the classroom.

Having shown a great deal of knowledge, and continually developing strong learning within the department, Josie became Head of Art at BGS in 2011. Her passion for art was always evident in her dynamic teaching and she would never shy away from tackling what could be seen as taboo subject matters with the pupils. Her knowledge of the subject is immense, and this was unquestionably shared with her colleagues within the department, encouraging growth and learning at every level. Not content with just leading a very successful department, Josie entered the world of the examiners in 2000, using all her knowledge and experience to always improve teaching and learning of her subject.

Josie's professionalism and pastoral skills were always highly valued as a Year 8 form tutor and her pupils always felt valued and important. Even the infamous Christmas form dance off will certainly go down in history!

Josie also contributed hugely to the wider life of BGS, supporting the common room community as chief party planner and entertainments advisor. She heavily involved herself with the art trips within the UK and encouraged extended trips abroad.

We will certainly miss Josie in the Art Department, not least for her integrity as well as her wicked sense of humour but also her unfaltering energy for life. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with such a gifted artist and an outstanding teacher and Head of Department. Bold, energetic and hardworking, Josie epitomises the school motto of 'Hoc Age'. We wish Josie a long and happy retirement and hope that she continues to dance through life.



Loretta Gibbons

By S Haslam, Head of Modern Languages

Loretta Gibbons retired in summer 2019, having joined the Modern Languages Department in January 2014.

Loretta primarily taught French and Spanish, but more recently taught German in Years 7 to 9 as well, offering a great deal of flexibility, for which I was truly grateful come deployment time! She organised the EU translation competition 'Juvenes Translatores' for Sixth Formers and 'Language Leaders' for budding teachers lower down the school, as well as accompanying the lower school trip to Normandy, and her many contributions will be sorely missed.

Loretta is, however, first and foremost an excellent linguist and all her pupils were assured of the highest standard of teaching in whichever language they were learning. She has many things in the pipeline, including continuing her work for the Samaritans and enjoying more time with her husband, but she can still be seen in school as she comes in every week to sing in the choir. We wish her a long and happy retirement.



Suzanne (Suzy) Palmer

By L Croudson, Head of Learning Strategies

Born in Harrogate, Suzy grew up in Leeds, and attended Allerton Grange High School. She left school at 16 and completed her A Levels one at a time at night school.

She did this while working for Leeds City Council full time and at the Eagle Tavern pub at weekends. Moving to London in her teens, she completed a Business Studies course and then went to travel around Scandinavia and settled in Denmark, working in Copenhagen's first casino. In her mid-20s, she was drawn to the bright lights of Huddersfield and completed her BEd in Business Technology. Starting her teaching career at Outwood Grange, Wakefield (a huge comprehensive school), Suzy went on to work in schools in Doncaster and Leeds teaching Business and ICT and additionally supporting students with learning difficulties. After the birth of her fourth child, she came to work at BGS in the ICT Department. Noticing a vacancy in Special Needs, she applied to work with Clock House's Linda Morris, and so began the rapid growth of the Learning Support Department. This enabled Suzy to become the full time SENCO and Head of Learning Support, working from a desk in her ICT classroom. Suzy built up the Department and gently encouraged a culture change in the school, towards a more inclusive approach. Suzy encouraged pupils to be open about their difficulties but to never make excuses.

She always felt it was important to still have some teaching, and in addition to teaching ICT, she has taught A Level Psychology and lower school Maths, always valuing her supportive colleagues. She has continued to be a life-long learner, obtaining a wealth of qualifications relating to SEND, including her MA from The University of Leeds, the National Award for SEN Coordination and a PGCert in Languages, Literacies and Dyslexia from The University of Birmingham. After completing each course, she would say 'I'm definitely not committing to any more courses'. She is now in the process of completing an Educational Doctorate from York St John. Suzy was proud to be one of the founding Union Representatives when BGS Senior Leadership Team (SLT) agreed on voluntary union recognition.

Now her children have left home, she has decided to move back to London, to marry her teenage sweetheart. She is now the SENCO and Head of Inclusion at Coloma Convent Girls' School, Croydon. We would like to thank her for all that she has given to BGS, especially the students over the last 16 years, and we look forward to seeing her back in Yorkshire soon!



Carolyn (Carrie) Kajda

By J Chapman, Assistant Head (Pastoral)

Carrie joined the school in September 2014, instantly making a hit with her EpiPen training session on her first inset day.

Although a very experienced nurse, she had not worked in a school before, but very quickly settled into the role. She was mentored by Sally Martindale, with whom she developed a highly effective partnership. Carrie had previously worked for twelve years as a nurse practitioner in the minor injuries clinic at Airedale and brought valuable experience to the nursing team. She could diagnose injuries with what Sally called "her x-ray eyes" and identify whether a student needed a trip to A&E where, if they did, her diagnosis would always be confirmed.

School nursing involves a wide range of skills and Carrie took the challenges of supporting young people struggling with mental as well as physical problems in her stride. She became a valuable member of the safeguarding team and contributed in the classroom to the PD programme.

Carrie has left BGS to spend more time with her family and to travel to visit her sisters in Spain and Canada. She is currently enjoying gardening, meditation retreats and making good use of a splendid new campervan. BGS is fortunate that she still comes in to support the school nursing team as a cover nurse.



Alan Barnard

By J Boardman, Deputy Head

Alan retired from his role as Physics Technician during the academic year 2018-19, having been in the post for eleven years.

Alan is an electrical engineer by trade and has a wealth of scientific knowledge both theoretical and practical. During his tenure he served under three different headmasters, two heads of physics and supported nineteen different teachers of physics. Alan, just like us all, has his own little quirks. He was very protective of his stock of practical equipment and on several occasions reminded me to be very careful with the equipment as I tried to prise the grip of the stock room. He was also very quick to offer advice on how to teach a specific aspect of physics, and it was more often than not a different way than the teacher had originally planned.

On other occasions, if the teacher asked Alan how to demonstrate a particular principle he would answer by saying well that's your choice because you are the teacher. The department was very fortunate to have a technician with such theoretical and practical knowledge. During his time at the school he produced numerous teaching resources which are more fit for purpose than any commercially produced resource designed to demonstrate the same concept. He was also the author of four volumes of the 'Big Bad Book of Experiments', which are a collection of detailed worksheets designed to help technicians and teachers set-up and demonstrate concepts efficiently. The quality and detail in these worksheets could make them a marketable product. Alan also helped to transform the practical database, so that it became an integral practical physics resource which is unique to BGS. Alan does not like or embrace change very easily and his decision to retire from his post was a very difficult personal choice that he had to make. On behalf of the Physics Department, and the school, I would like to record and thank Alan for his technical support over the past eleven years and for regularly sharing his wisdom and opinions which always kept us on our toes. I hope that Alan enjoys spending his well-earned retirement with his family.

Louis d'Arcy

By S Hinchliffe, Headmaster

OB Louis d'Arcy returned to BGS only briefly as Deputy Head; but in that time, he made a big impression.

This key role is one that embraces most aspects of school life and Louis gained valuable experience for the next chapter of his professional journey. A former Head of Sixth Form, Louis came to us with an impressive track record of middle and senior leadership experience at a select number of top schools.

He played a full role as a member of the Senior Leadership Team, attending to daily operations, supporting some important (strategic) project work and helping to guide BGS through a successful inspection. We are grateful to Louis for the good work that he did. From the outset, however, he was clear in his intention to achieve a Headship and we wish Louis both success and fulfilment in this role at St Bede's College, Manchester.



Ruth Thompson

By L Hanson, Head of English

Ruth joined the English Department on a temporary basis in the Spring of 2014, coming to us from St Mary's Menston.

I had the pleasure of making this arrangement permanent when I became Head of the Department in the summer of 2014. Ruth brought a wealth of experience to the Department and was also keen to embrace new teaching methods often going to great lengths preparing resources and thinking of different approaches. She enjoyed the intellectual challenge of her A Level students but also relished the opportunity of teaching lower down the school. Whatever the age group, she was always keen to ensure they were stretched and challenged or supported and cajoled as appropriate to their needs.

The pastoral care of pupils was something at the heart of Ruth's overall approach and very much in line with her firm view that schools are communities. It was this approach that led to her becoming Assistant Head of Sixth Form and later, Head of Year 12. To say Ruth went the extra mile for pupils is an understatement. She took their welfare very seriously and worked tirelessly to support them. In

keeping with her pastoral role, she placed herself at the heart of the school community, participating in and leading a range of co-curricular activities and events, amongst these were the Senior Choir, Chamber Choir, the Year 7 Ilkley Walk, the Fairtrade Tuckshop, the school's Shakespeare Festival, backstage activities, a number of drama productions and several residential trips. This is clear evidence of Ruth's commitment to BGS and why she was such a respected colleague.

In 2018, wanderlust led her to seek and secure a post at the New School, Rome, initially on a sabbatical from September 2018 and then on a permanent basis from the summer of 2019. Italy is a language she has always wanted to speak and a culture she has always wanted to experience. She is now living la dolce vita.

Watching Deborah teach was a pleasure and a privilege. After reading student feedback forms it is very clear that her pupils had a great deal of fondness for her and very much enjoyed her classes. Deborah gave her time freely to her pupils and could often be found offering assistance at break, lunchtime and after school. As part of Deborah's attempt to help and assist pupils she prepared a series of 'Podcasts' – an audio resource that she made freely available to all pupils. Beyond her Chemistry classes Deborah also spent a great deal of time and effort teaching Drama. Over the years she has put on many excellent productions for the school.

On a personal note I valued Deborah's views and opinions on departmental policy and frequently sought out her independent viewpoint before making a final decision. This help and assistance she willingly provided, but I knew it was time consuming and goes beyond the role of the average classroom teacher. In this capacity, I very much want to recognise her contribution and offer my grateful thanks. She will be sorely missed. What Deborah did for the department and the school was selfless and extraordinary.

We all wish her well in retirement and hope she enjoys many years of amateur dramatics and visiting her beloved Scottish Islands.



Deborah Mouat

By D Proctor, Head of Chemistry

I would like to extend my gratitude to Dr Deborah Mouat for all the support she has given to the department and to me personally.

It was obvious from the moment that I arrived at BGS that Deborah was a very experienced teacher. Deborah always had teaching and learning at the centre of her teaching. She has excellent subject knowledge and was very adept at getting even the most reluctant pupils to enjoy the subject. She was particularly good at getting pupils to believe in themselves. Deborah's public examination results were excellent, clearly evidencing her ability to get the best from her pupils.

Thank you...

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

Bernard Dunwoodie
Examination Invigilator

Patricia Irvine
Examination Invigilator

Hannah Brown
Cleaner

Amy McGurk
Chemistry Technician

Vanessa Walker
Specialist Sports Coach (Netball)

Luke Callaghan
Graduate Sports Assistant – Rowing

Nicholas Honey
Graduate Sports Assistant – Swimming

Lydia Walker
Graduate Sports Assistant – Netball

Susannah Williams
Teacher of Science

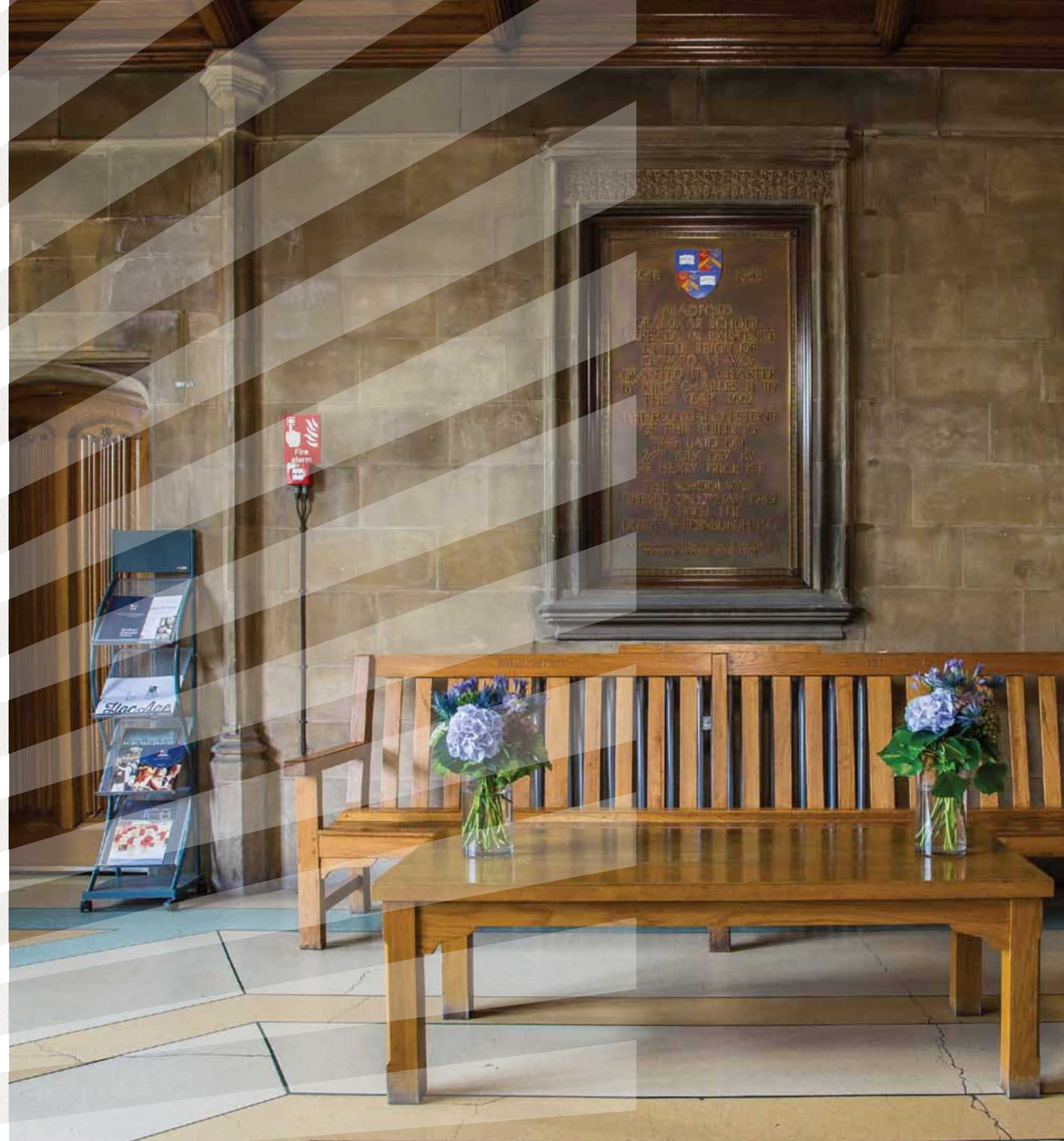
Beverley Davidson
Teacher of English and Drama

Giles Flatt
Graduate Sports Assistant – Hockey

John Oakes
Teacher of PE and Games

John Turner
Maintenance Assistant

Sally Thomas
HR Administrator



University Degree Course Admissions and Vocations 2019

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| A | |
| Karan Ahir | The University of Liverpool, Dental Surgery |
| Subhaan Ali | The University of York, International Relations |
| Aditya Anand | The University of Nottingham, Medicine |
| Siena Anderson | University of Newcastle, Music |
| Mohammad Momin Anwar | The University of Manchester, Electrical and Electronic Engineering |
| Danyaal Asif | University of Hertfordshire, Optometry |
| Ahrus Asim | Queen Mary University of London, Medicine |
| Thomas Austin | University of St Andrews, Medicine |
| Theodore Azfar | Durham University, Modern Languages and Cultures (with year abroad) |
| B | |
| Felix Baines | University of Southampton, Mechanical Engineering (with industrial placement year) |
| Fraser Barton | The University of Warwick, Engineering |
| Myles Barton | The University of Warwick, Modern Languages |
| Najmuddeen Basit | University of Derby, Mathematics (with foundation year) |
| Eleanor Beaty | The University of Edinburgh, English Literature |
| Lydia Beckett | Durham University, Anthropology |
| Sebastian Betts | The University of Hull, Business, Management and Marketing |
| Gaurav Bhardwaj | University of Leeds, Dental Surgery/Oral Science |
| Charlotte Bingham | The University of Nottingham, History |
| Harry Bolland | Loughborough University, Management Sciences |
| Megan Boyle | University of Cambridge, Modern and Medieval Languages |
| Megan Bulmer | The University of York, English |
| Fatema Burhani | The University of Bradford, Pharmacy |

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| C | |
| Emily Caldwell | The University of Birmingham, Criminology |
| Harry Chapman | Liverpool John Moores University, Business with Marketing (with foundation year) |
| Hannah Chaudry | The University of York, Chemistry (with a year in industry) |
| Tatenda Happiness Chinembiri | The University of Bradford, Clinical Sciences/Medicine Foundation |
| Wajedur Chowdhury | The University of Bradford, Clinical Sciences/Medicine Foundation |
| Gursimran Chutti | Royal Holloway, University of London, Mathematics with integrated foundation year |
| Samuel Clark | The University of Nottingham, Veterinary Medicine |
| Isabel Clarke | The University of York, International Relations |
| William Cooper | The University of Manchester, Physics with Astrophysics |
| Samuel Craske | University of Newcastle, Chemistry |
| Julia Cumberland | Lancaster University, Natural Sciences (study abroad) |
| D | |
| Thomas Desilva | University of Newcastle, Joint Honours Psychology and Biology |
| Alexander Doulah | University of Bristol, Medicine |
| E | |
| Lewis Ebert | University of Oxford, German |
| Emilia Ellison | University of Newcastle upon Tyne, Marketing and Management |
| Katie Elmore | University of Surrey, Veterinary Medicine and Science |
| F | |
| Catriona Ford | Emil Dale Academy, Foundation in Musical Theatre |
| G | |
| Harrison Gill | Sheffield Hallam University, Computer Science |
| Frederick Glover | The University of Liverpool, Medicine |
| Jasmine Greenwood | The University of Birmingham, Law |
| H | |
| Marcus Hall | The University of Huddersfield, Psychology |
| Oliver Handley | The University of Hull, Philosophy, Politics and Economics |
| Thomas Handy | Northumbria University Sport, Exercise and Nutrition |
| Danish Haroon | The University of Bradford, Accounting and Finance |
| Anisha Hasnat | Hull York Medical School, Medicine |
| Alicia Hawksworth | Durham University, Computer Science |
| Toby Helm | The Manchester Metropolitan University, History |
| Ava Hepworth-Wood | The University of York, History of Art |
| Fionnuala Heywood | Sheffield Hallam University, Psychology |
| Sophie Holden | The University of Manchester, Marketing Management (with industrial/professional experience) |
| Adam Horrocks | Birmingham City University, Business Economics |
| Maariah Annum Hussain | London School of Economics, Social Anthropology |
| Zain Hussain | University of Leicester, Medicine |

| | |
|--------------|---|
| I | |
| Edward Irwin | The University of York, Accounting, Business Finance and Management (with a year in industry) |

J

Esther Jackson
Hanna Johal
Teigan Johnson

The University of Birmingham, Anthropology and History
The University of Edinburgh, English Literature
The University of Manchester, Marketing Management
(with industrial/professional experience)

K

Nathan Kearney
Jack Kent
Claudia Kenyon
Maryam Khan
Misbah Khan
Beatrice Kingsley
Friedrich Konig Gimeno

Northumbria University, Business with Management
University of Derby, Motorsport Engineering
The University of Edinburgh, English Literature and Classics
SOAS University of London, Law and Arabic
The University of Bradford, Chemistry
Durham University, Combined Honours in Social Sciences
The University of Glasgow, History

L

Maisie Lawrence
Josephine Llewellyn
Harvey Logan
Jennifer Lord
Mark Lovitt

University of Newcastle, Marketing and Management
Lancaster University, Natural Sciences
University of Cambridge, Geography
Northumbria University, Fashion Design and Marketing
The University of Warwick, French and Italian

M

Nardeep Madhas

Hibah Mahmood
Sahd Mahmood
Mohammed Makda

The University of Sheffield,
Accounting and Financial Management
Queen Mary University of London, Dentistry
The University of Bradford, Finance and Economics
University of Newcastle upon Tyne,
Accounting and Finance

Anna Marsden
William Marshall

The University of Nottingham, History
Loughborough University,
Politics and International Relations

Anna Masterton
Daniel McNab

The University of York, Music
University of Leeds,
Computer Science (Digital and Technology Solutions)

Saul McShane
Finlay Mears-Young
Ben Merchant
Jonathan Milner

The University of Edinburgh, Philosophy and Psychology
The University of Nottingham, Arts
Loughborough University, Product Design Engineering
The University of Manchester,
Engineering (with an integrated foundation year)

Edmund Milwain
Hannah Misbert
Mohammed Haaris Miskin

Durham University, Mathematics
The University of Liverpool, Psychology
SOAS University of London Social Sciences,
Arts and Humanities (with foundation year)
The University of Liverpool, Classical Studies
University of Newcastle, Agri-Business Management

N

Aaron Narang
Nia Naru

University of Newcastle, Biomedical Sciences
The University of Nottingham,
Mechanical Engineering (including an industrial year)
The University of Birmingham, Dentistry

Maryam Nisa

P

Saif Panni
Ravi Patel
Hannah Pazvakavambwa
Ajay Pulavarti

The University of York, Computer Science/Mathematics
The University of Manchester, Economics
University of Leeds, Medicine
Imperial College London, Mechanical Engineering

R

Alexander Ramage
Oliver Rhodes
Isabelle Robinson

Durham University, Anthropology
Pearson College London, Business Management
Lancaster University, Marketing with Psychology

S

Pavandeep Sandhar
Luke Sandiford

University of Bristol, Medicine
The University of West London,
Aviation Management (with commercial pilot licence)

Mayukh Sen
Polly Shaw

The University of Warwick, Law
The University of Liverpool,
International Politics and Policy and Business Studies
The Manchester Metropolitan University, Product Design
The University of Sheffield, History and Politics
University of Leeds, Computer Science
The University of Nottingham, Economics

Rew Shvitiel
Isaac Stephenson
Hanna Suleman
Ayush Sunil

T

Paris Tetteroo-Smith
Millie Thomas
Edward Thorpe

University of Bristol, Bioengineering
University of Cambridge, Education
Imperial College London, Mechanical Engineering

W

Umaira Waheed

University of Leeds,
Interdisciplinary Science (with foundation year)

Samuel Wake-Watson
Georgia Wiley

Durham University, Mathematics
The Manchester Metropolitan University,
Marketing Management

Y

Thomas Young

University of Bath,
Mechanical Engineering (with placement)

Examination Results 2019

General Certificate of Education (A Level) 2019

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| A | |
| Karan Ahir | Biology [^] , Chemistry [^] , Maths [^] |
| Subhaan Ali | Economics, History, Politics |
| Aditya Anand | Biology [^] , Chemistry, Spanish [^] |
| Siena Anderson | Art [^] , English Literature, Music |
| Peter Ashby | Design Technology [^] , Maths, Physics |
| Danyaal Asif | Biology [^] , Chemistry, Physics |
| Ahrus Asim | Chemistry [^] , Computer Science, Maths [^] , Physics [^] |
| Minahil Atif | Biology, Chemistry, English Literature |
| Tom Austin | Biology [^] , Chemistry [^] , Maths [^] , Physics [^] |

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| B | |
| Abdul-Wali Babar | Biology, Chemistry, Physics |
| Felix Baines | German, Maths [^] , Physics |
| Fraser Barton | Computer Science [^] , Further Maths [^] , Maths [^] , Physics [^] |
| Myles Barton | French [^] , History, Spanish [^] |
| Hassan Bashir | Biology, Chemistry, Maths |
| Rabia Bashir | Biology [^] , Chemistry, Religious Studies |
| Naj Basit | Maths |
| Eleanor Beaty | Art [^] , English Literature, Music, Religious Studies |
| Seb Betts | Business Studies, Economics, Politics |
| Charlotte Bingham | Economics [^] , History [^] , Politics |
| Harry Bolland | Business Studies, Economics [^] , English Literature |
| Megan Bulmer | Chemistry, English Literature [^] , History [^] |
| Fatema Burhani | Biology, Chemistry, Maths |
| Christian Burke | Chemistry, History [^] , Politics [^] |

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| C | |
| Emily Caldwell | German, History [^] , Politics |
| James Chapman | Chemistry, Economics [^] , Maths |
| Happiness | |
| Chinembiri | Biology, Chemistry, Maths |
| Waj Chowdhury | Chemistry, French [^] |

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Simran Chutti | Business Studies, Economics, Maths |
| Samuel Clark | Biology, Chemistry [^] , Economics, Politics |
| Issy Clarke | Biology, Chemistry, French |
| Matthew Cogan | History [^] , Maths [^] , Physics [^] |
| Will Cooper | Art [^] , Maths [^] , Physics [^] |
| Sam Craske | Biology, Chemistry, Politics |
| Julia Cumberland | Biology, Chemistry, Maths, Physics |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| D | |
| Cyrus Darabi | Design Technology [^] , Economics, Maths |
| Alex Doulah | Biology [^] , Chemistry [^] , Maths [^] , Physics [^] |

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| E | |
| Millie Ellison | Business Studies [^] , History, Psychology |
| Katie Elmore | Biology [^] , Chemistry, French [^] |

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| F | |
| Milly | |
| Fewlass-Jones | Biology [^] , Chemistry [^] , Maths [^] , Physics |
| Catriona Ford | Art [^] , English Literature [^] , Theatre Studies |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| G | |
| Harrison Gill | Business Studies, Computer Science, Psychology |
| Freddie Glover | Biology [^] , Chemistry [^] , Maths [^] |
| Aaron Gohri | Biology, Chemistry, Religious Studies |

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Jasmine | |
| Greenwood | English Literature [^] , History, Politics |
| Anishka Gujral | Biology, Chemistry, Maths |

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| H | |
| Marcus Hall | Biology, Chemistry, Psychology |
| Abdulhaseeb | |
| Hammaad | English Language |
| Ollie Handley | Economics, English Literature, Politics |
| Tom Handy | Biology, Business Studies, PE |
| Nimrah Haq | Biology, Chemistry, Maths |
| Danish Haroon | Business Studies, Economics |
| Alicia Hawksworth | Computer Science [^] , Further Maths [^] , Maths [^] , Physics [^] |

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Toby Helm | Chemistry, History, Maths |
| Ava | |
| Hepworth-Wood | Art [^] , English Literature, History |

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Fionnuala Heywood | Biology, Chemistry |
| Sophie Holden | Art [^] , Business Studies [^] , Religious Studies |
| Adam Horrocks | Business Studies, Economics, Geography |
| Zain Hussain | Biology [^] , Chemistry [^] , Maths [^] |

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| I | |
| Eddie Irwin | Business Studies, Maths, Physics |
| Aman Ismail | Biology, Chemistry, Latin |

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| J | |
| Edgar Jackson | Business Studies [^] , Geography, Politics |
| Esther Jackson | History [^] , Politics, Religious Studies [^] |
| Hanna Johal | Classic Civilisation [^] , English Literature [^] , Politics [^] |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Teigan Johnson | English Literature [^] , Politics [^] , Psychology |
| Kieran Jones | Computer Science, Maths, Physics |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| K | |
| Nathan Kearney | Computer Science, Economics, Physics |
| Jack Kent | Design Technology, Maths, Physics |
| Claudia Kenyon | Classical Civilisation [^] , English Literature [^] , Latin [^] |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Iman Khan | Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry |
| Maryam Khan | Economics, History [^] , Politics [^] |
| Misbah Khan | Chemistry, Maths, Psychology |
| Bea Kingsley | French [^] , German [^] , Politics |

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| L | |
| Maisie Lawrence | Art [^] , Biology, Business Studies [^] |
| Josephine Llewellyn | History [^] , Further Maths [^] , Maths [^] , Psychology [^] |

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Harvey Logan | Geography [^] , History [^] , Politics |
| Jennifer Lord | Art [^] , Business Studies, Psychology |
| Mark Lovitt | French [^] , Politics, Spanish |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| M | |
| Sahd Mahmood | Economics, English Language, Politics |
| Adeem Malik | Biology, Chemistry, Maths |
| Anna Marsden | Economics, History [^] , Politics |
| Anna Masterton | Art [^] , Biology, Music |
| Anna McCash | Art [^] , Business Studies [^] , Spanish |
| Daniel McNab | Computer Science [^] , Further Maths [^] , Maths [^] , Physics [^] |

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Saul McShane | Chemistry [^] , Greek, Physics [^] |
| Fin Mears-Young | French [^] , German [^] , Greek [^] |
| Ben Merchant | Economics, Maths [^] , Physics |
| Jonny Milner | Chemistry, Maths, Physics |

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Edmund Milwain | Chemistry [^] , Further Maths [^] , Maths [^] , Physics [^] |
| Hannah Misbert | Geography [^] , Psychology, Religious Studies |
| Haaris Miskin | Economics, Politics, Spanish |
| Ibraheem Monks | Design Technology [^] , History, Maths |
| Ben Moon | Classical Civilisation, History, Politics |
| Sam Murphy | Business Studies, Design Technology, Geography |

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| N | |
| Ashwin Napa | Biology, Chemistry, Maths |
| Aaron Narang | Biology, Business Studies [^] , Chemistry [^] |
| Nia Naru | Latin, Maths, Physics |
| Maryam Nisa | Biology [^] , Chemistry, French [^] , Spanish [^] |

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| P | |
| Saif Panni | Computer Science [^] , Further Maths, Maths [^] , Physics |

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Hannah | |
| Pazvakavambwa | Biology [^] , Chemistry [^] , Maths [^] , Physics [^] |
| Ajay Pulavarti | Further Maths [^] , Maths [^] , Physics [^] |

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| R | |
| Alex Ramage | Maths [^] , PE, Physics |
| Ollie Rhodes | Economics, History, Politics |
| Joe Riley | Computer Science, Economics, Maths |
| Izzy Robinson | Art, Business Studies [^] , Psychology |
| Euan Ross | Music Technology, PE, Psychology |

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| S | |
| Luke Sandiford | Economics, Geography, Physics |
| Mayukh Sen | English Language [^] , English Literature [^] , History [^] |
| Polly Shaw | History [^] , Maths, Politics |
| Rew Shvitiel | Design Technology, Geography, Psychology |
| Sophie Still | Biology [^] , Chemistry [^] , Maths [^] |
| Hanna Suleman | Computer Science [^] , Maths [^] , Spanish |
| Ayush Sunil | Biology [^] , Chemistry [^] , Further Maths [^] , Maths [^] |

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| T | |
| Sian Taylor | Maths, Physics, Politics |
| Hari Thiaray | Economics [^] , History, Maths |
| Millie Thomas | History [^] , Politics [^] , Religious Studies [^] |
| Ed Thorpe | Further Maths [^] , Maths [^] , Physics [^] , Spanish [^] |

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| W | |
| Umaisra Waheed | Biology, Chemistry, History |
| Sam Wake-Watson | Computer Science [^] , Further Maths [^] , Maths [^] , Physics [^] |
| Georgia Wiley | Art [^] , Business Studies, English Literature |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Y | |
| Tom Young | Chemistry [^] , Further Maths [^] , Maths [^] , Physics [^] |

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Z | |
| Anila Zaman | Biology, Chemistry, English Literature [^] , Maths |

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

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Junior School



Arts and Performance

The following articles are written by our talented junior journalists

Viola vacancy!

By B McDonald, Year 6

The viola is a string instrument that is bowed or played with other techniques. It is slightly larger than a violin and has a lower and deeper sound.

Since the 18th century, it has been the middle or alto voice of the violin family, between the violin (which is tuned a perfect fifth above) and the cello (which is tuned an octave below).

Currently, no Clock House pupils are taking viola lessons. As a result, this wonderful instrument is missing from our outstanding orchestra and our string group.

As a result, the Clock House music staff would like to encourage pupils to consider taking up this super stringed instrument. If students decide to attempt the viola, there would be a plethora of opportunities and clubs that they could participate in as they move up to Senior School. Violas can complement a variety of different music ensembles and would further enhance the existing Clock House music clubs.

Playing a string instrument like the viola can open various doors for the future. For some pupils, music isn't a subject that particularly appeals. However, this is exactly the reason why teachers want pupils to consider trying something new. You never know unless you try!

Eleanor, a current member of string group and orchestra, had this to say: 'Playing a string instrument gives you an opportunity to play in front of audiences with your friends. There are chances to play different pieces every term, both modern and traditional.'

Playing a string instrument like the viola can open various doors for the future.

A creative journey

By M Dickinson, Year 5

Mrs Morley is the Clock House art teacher. We caught up with her to find out about her history and other interests.

How long have you been teaching art for?
I've been teaching art for five years and have enjoyed every second of it.

When did your love for art start?
It started when I was very young. My parents also had a big love for art as well so it was a very creative house.

What are your other interests?
I love running on the moors and roads and I love interior designing.

What do you do outside of school?
Outside of school, I look after my three wonderful children, renovate my house and enjoy cooking.

Are you creative in your spare time?
I always try to be creative by painting, decorating, making cards, sewing and painting children's canvases. I previously had a business called 'Canvases for Kids.'

Musical Talents

By M Dickinson, Year 5

Melody is a Year 6 pupil who is a talented and brilliant musician. Melody sings, and plays the violin and piano.

Melody is part of a very musical family and can often be heard singing or humming as she floats between lessons. Her tuneful voice has been appreciated by many in Clock House concerts over the years. Impressively, she has been fortunate enough to be selected to train with Opera North (although she is very modest about this).

I understand you recently performed in the Opera North production, Tosca. What does it stand for?

Tosca is the name of the main character in the production.

What do you do as part of your role in Tosca?

I am a child in a scene before the second half. I look up to a wealthy man.

How often do you practice?

I practice most Wednesdays and all of Thursday leading up to the production.

What type of singing do you specialise in?

I mostly specialise in opera and classical music.

Do any of your family enjoy music?

My brother, my sister and my mum love music. My brother plays the guitar and sings, my sister sings and also plays the cello and piano and my mum plays the flute and the recorder.

How often do/did you perform to live audiences?

I performed to live audiences every week, either Wednesday or Thursday during the months of October and November.

What is your greatest achievement to date?

My greatest achievement is getting into the Tosca opera because lots of people auditioned and I managed to get in.

Do you enjoy singing, and how does it make you feel?

I really enjoy singing and it takes me away from everything I find difficult.



What advice would you give to somebody who might be interested in getting involved in operatic singing?
My advice is to work hard and strive to improve.

How does being a Clock House pupil support your musical interests?
In music I do a lot of singing and learn a bit on the piano as well. There are also a lot of music lessons – we are really lucky.

Do you play any instruments or is your voice your instrument?
My voice is my instrument but I also play the violin and piano which I enjoy equally.



A musical coincidence

By Emma C and Liberty P, Year 6

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 O, 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 through having keyboard lessons, when she was 10 (one year ago). However, she had always wanted to play the piano and 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.

Ilkley Literature Festival

By Maddie D and Jacob H, Year 6

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

Participants, aged from three to 12 years, compete as part of a fun poetry contest. Clock House pupils entered, and three successful children 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.



Dreaming of how I can make a difference

By Samara K – Ilkley Literature Festival Runner up, Year 5 and 6

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.



We hope you enjoy reading
our prize-winning poetry



Discovery

By Zahra R – Ilkley Literature Festival Winner, Years 3 and 4

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.

Communities, Societies and Activities

Little Leaders

By M Mercer, Year 5 and A Harvey, Year 6

On a Thursday morning, before the official school day commences, Miss Miller (teacher of games and PE) runs a club called 'Little Leaders' in the Clock House Hall. This new and exciting club provides a unique opportunity for younger pupils to learn leadership skills and develop their self-confidence.

Little Leaders offers pupils a chance to work towards a recognised qualification in leadership, all before stepping foot into secondary school. Although Miss Miller admits that it is a challenge to recruit pupils when competing against established sports and music clubs, Little Leaders shows the potential to grow and develop as more and more pupils begin to reap the benefits of the invaluable life skill: learning how to lead others! Miss Miller talked about the aims and outcomes of this exciting new club.

What is the club about?

The idea is to instil leadership skills in young pupils, to allow them to be able to lead events. I'd like to offer opportunities for pupils to gain a formal qualification in leadership. There are so many good leaders in school, why not give them a qualification?

What type of activities?

An example of one of the sessions was discussing ways to organise pupils into separate groups to avoid people being left out. Pupils are encouraged to learn all about communication, organisation and how to cater for different abilities.

How many pupils attend?

Ideally – the aim is for everyone in Year 6 to be a 'Little Leader' by July 2019.

Do you enjoy doing the club?

Yes – I love spending time with the pupils and seeing them grow into leaders. The difficulty at first is promoting something that you are passionate about to pupils that don't know anything about it but hopefully word is beginning to spread ...

Do pupils enjoy the club?

They tell me so! They vote with their feet so I'll know more over the coming weeks.

Is it fun for you?

Yes – hugely. I get to be one of the pupils. It is a good opportunity for young people to learn what it is like and how it feels to be a teacher. It allows pupils to have an experience of leading and to see how it can be done successfully.

Do pupils learn to work as a team?

Yes they do! For each activity, they work in different groups. Nobody will work with the same person every week. The club encourages pupils to build new relationships and extend existing ones.

Would you consider leading it at a lunchtime instead so more pupils can come?

It would be great to be able to do so. This is an additional club. If time is available, I would love to accommodate it but I know lots of pupils already have musical and sporting commitments at lunchtimes, which are (understandably) difficult to compete with.

Harmonious Homework Club

By C Nattress, Year 6

Homework Club is a session which takes place after school on Mondays and Wednesdays between 3:30pm and 4pm.

During this club, pupils have an opportunity to start or finish their homework; they may also research information using iPads. Many of the pupils who attend this weekly club think that it is an excellent idea due to the fact that they can work with fellow peers or a teacher who really understands what the pupils are trying to achieve for their homework.

A stoney journey through the ages

By D Mustafa and A McMillan, Year 6

In October, Year 3 travelled back in time to enjoy an exciting Stone Age Trip.

Visiting Murton Park, York, they immersed themselves in prehistoric information and enriched their knowledge of history through practical experiences.

During the trip, pupils learnt how to grind grain and studied many farming techniques. They visited prehistoric houses and learnt how they differ from present day houses and buildings. Pupils were also informed about how prehistoric men hunted for wild boar, mammoths and bears with stone spears instead of metal. Year 3 designed beaker pots out of clay – just one of the materials that the Stone Age men and women used.

Pupils listened to the story of Ötzi the iceman. Ötzi was found on the East Ridge of the Feneilspitze in the Ötztal Alps on the Austrian–Italian border on 19 September 1991. The tourists who found the body thought it was the body of a recently deceased mountaineer. Archaeologists later found out that it was the body of a prehistoric man.

To summarise, Year 3 enjoyed an enriching educational experience about the wonderful prehistoric world. This amazing trip showed them how different and difficult the world used to be before modern technology and materials were introduced.



School Council

By R Hare, Year 5

A school council is a group of pupils who are elected to represent the views of all pupils and to improve school life.

So far this year, school council at Clock House has achieved many successes including ‘Christmas Jumper Day,’ which raised a substantial amount of money for the charity ‘Save the Children’. Pupils have also helped make a democratic decision in order to elect an appropriate charity for concert proceeds to go towards. Every week, school councillors hold a meeting where a pupil from each form brings new ideas that their class has come up with. Subsequently, school council representatives discuss new ideas about school life and vote for different ways in which ideas can be developed.

Why did we consider starting school council?
School council was established in order to help make a better environment for the pupils at Clock House.

Mrs Robertshaw-Hughes kindly runs the organisation in her classroom and chooses a pupil chairperson to lead the meetings. Her drive and enthusiasm has made school council a very happy place to be. She stated: ‘I love running school council. I am proud to see the pupils making a difference to school life.’

We look forward to seeing the continued impact school council has on life at Clock House during the summer term.

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I love running school council. I am proud to see the pupils making a difference to school life.

Mrs Robertshaw-Hughes
School Council Leader



General Knowledge Quiz Club Competition

By Miss Marsden, Teacher and Academic Coordinator

On the morning of 16 January, Clock House hosted a super event. The Price Hall accommodated the General Knowledge Area Heat of the annual Interschool Quiz Club Competition.

With the support of Mrs Robertshaw-Hughes at her weekly practice sessions, our budding quiz enthusiasts worked extremely hard to refine their general knowledge skills.

On the day, alongside teams attending from The Grammar School at Leeds, The Froebelain School, Chapter House in York and Low Ash Primary, Clock House fielded two strong teams which included pupils from Years 3 to 6. After a tense round of questioning, one of our teams secured a spot in the top 4.

Many parents came along to support the event which staff and pupils were extremely grateful for. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed the exciting opportunity and look forward to continuing to build upon their existing knowledge.

Junior Journalism

By A Harvey, Year 6

Junior Journalism started in March 2017 led by English teacher, Miss Marsden.

The idea was to provide gifted writers with an opportunity to extend and showcase their literary skills to a wider audience. Impressively, our budding journalists made BGS history by creating the first ever Hoc Age Junior magazine to be published to pupils and parents. Previously there had only been Hoc Age Senior.

As part of Junior Journalism, pupils attend a weekly catch up session in the computing room whereby pupils gather in the computing room to type up and record their carefully researched information. They independently select, interview and write up their articles. These articles are then edited. The pupils then select a series of photos that they would like to accompany their articles. After this, the writing and photos are sent to the designers of Hoc Age, ‘Visual Sense’. With these resources, they create the final version.

Before Hoc Age is published, the attendees of the Junior Journalism club complete a final check of the magazine to see if they are pleased with the layout. Once the pupils have fully viewed the Hoc Age Junior, it is published. Hoc Age Junior is also digitally published on the Bradford Grammar website for parents to access electronically. The magazine is now combined with Junior, Senior and Sixth Form news.



Flying the flag around the globe

By E Crookes, Year 6

The Clock House flag is a treasured possession and it has become a traditional custom for it to be taken on holiday by one of the eager Clock House pupils.

To have the privilege of taking the flag, pupils must apply by filling in a flag request form, listing their name and where they are intending to travel. When pupils are chosen, it is their responsibility to take the flag with them on their trip and have a photo taken with it, which will then be hung on the flag wall in Clock House.

You might take the flag on an exciting holiday somewhere abroad, or even just to your Granny’s house. You might take the photo at a famous monument, your favourite place or maybe just with your family. If you are keen to expand the travel journey of the flag, do not hesitate to contact Mrs Reilly.

Let’s keep making our mark around the world!

Thank you Mr Smales!

By A McMillan, D Mustafa and G Singh, Year 6

At the culmination of this academic year, Mr Smales will commence his well-deserved retirement, following 21 years of teaching at Clock House.

Prior to joining the school, Mr Smales worked as an engineer. The expertise and talents he gained in that profession have, over the last 21 years, been incorporated into the current DT curriculum and shared with generations of Clock House pupils.

One of his main contributions to the Clock House DT curriculum is the Year 6 project, 'The Battle of the Robots', which is held in the Clock House hall on alternate years. Robots which are controlled by computer programmes, are designed and constructed by teams of two or three pupils. The robots then go into battle attempting to knock down various containers.

Not only has Mr Smales made a great impact on the teaching of several subjects (particularly DT), he has motivated and inspired numerous aspiring young musicians to excel at playing their chosen instruments.

As a musical enthusiast, he plays an extensive variety of instruments, including the oboe, the alto flute and even the baritone saxophone. He is frequently seen at the forefront of Clock House concerts conducting his beloved wind band and orchestra and assisting the flute group in their magical musical endeavours.

Mr Smales, the whole school is extremely grateful for your outstanding commitment to offering the pupils the best possible learning opportunities. You will be sadly missed.

Snooze the alarm clock.

No more get-ups ...



Miss Howes is an inspiration to us all ...

By A Khan and R Hare, Year 5

Miss Howes started working at Clock House as a Year 4 teacher in 2003.

Since then, she has been a History and Geography Coordinator, a member of the JLT (Junior Leadership Team), the Director of Teaching and Learning, the Deputy Head and the Headmistress of Clock House.

After university, Miss Howes started her teaching career at a school in East Sussex and then returned to Yorkshire where she taught in a number of other schools.

The best thing about working in education, for Miss Howes, is working with children and their families, building strong relationships and watching the children progress and thrive.



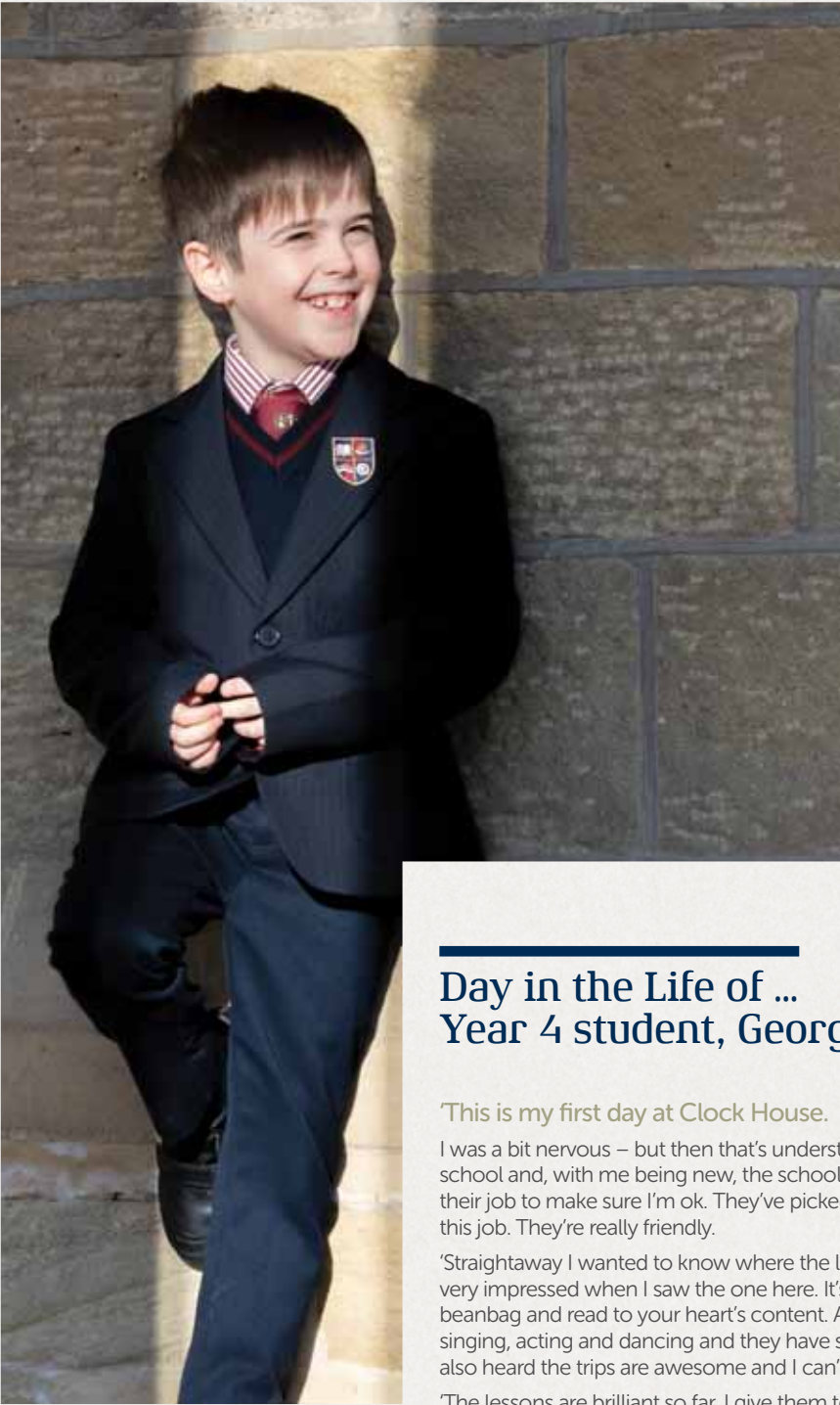
Miss Howes stated: 'Working at Clock House has been brilliant – a very positive part of my career with many happy memories. As a school I think our main achievements are the new playground, the outdoor classroom, the new sports' curriculum, changes to trips and residential, Drone Day, the Virtual Reality workshop, the Young Voices concert in Manchester and bush craft club.'

She continued: 'My favourite events that have occurred during my career as Headmistress are numerous, but to list a few they are the residential, educational visits, concerts and days when we get to dress up, such as World Book Day.'

Miss Howes enjoys lots of different subjects but the ones she particularly enjoys are maths, geography and history.

The hobbies that Miss Howes enjoys out of school are sport related activities, reading and travelling. She recently said: 'I haven't had much chance of late to pursue many personal hobbies, so I have made a wish list for the future and hope to achieve some of these goals in the next few years.'

We wish Miss Howes every success in the future. The contributions that she has made to the school have been invaluable and long lasting.



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 also 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 are 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.’

The lessons are 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.

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Star of the slopes!

By Millie M and Will M, Year 6

At Clock House, we love to celebrate each other’s achievements, both inside and outside of school. Bree is a relatively new snowboarder, having taken up the winter sport around eighteen 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.

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 are young could offer you exciting prospects.



Kenyan Choir: So happy wherever they are

By Ashaline K, Roop H and Khadijah N, Year 6

On Friday 4 October, a very special surprise was waiting for the 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.

...

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.

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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.

Roop
Year 6 student

'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 for people or sandwiches if you don't want a hot meal. 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!'



A new chapter

By Ashalina K, Khadijah N and Roop H, Year 6

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.

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.

Pupils take part in giant land art project

An innovative land artist had some willing helpers from the Junior School to create a piece of art running from Bradford's Lister Park to the BGS' Governors' lawn to mark the UCI World Championships.

The artist, Andrew Wood, said: '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.'

Trips and Visits

Year 5 Egyptian Speaker

By M Dickinson, Year 5

In September 2018, an Egyptian expert visited the Year 5 pupils to share his historical knowledge.

After an experience like no other, the pupils were armed with lots of new and exciting information. The visitor, who was dressed as an Egyptian, explained how to mummify a dead body by using natron salt and lots of bandages. The first step was to remove the different organs from the body and then put them into Canopic jars. The only organ they saved was the heart because the Egyptians believed that the mummified body would need its heart in the afterlife. They then took the brain out and threw it away because the Egyptians thought the brain just made snot!

During his talk, the Egyptian expert invited volunteers to participate and the whole class got a chance to do something exciting such as carrying an Egyptian coffin, stuffing a body and singing a funeral song. When the workshop had drawn to a conclusion, he told a fantastic story about the Egyptian gods which helped pupils to understand the Egyptian death ceremony. Finally, pupils were asked to wear a range of different masks which represented the various characters in the story.



Adventure and excitement for Year 5

By M Dickinson and M Mercer, Year 5

The Year 5 residential took place on the same dates as the Year 6 residential and the pupils were hoping for some sunshine.

On the morning of the April 2019, the excited children arrived at school with their bulging suitcases. They then jumped on the coach ready for their journey to Bewerley Park in Pateley Bridge.

When the eager children arrived, they were informed which dormitories and groups they had been allocated to. The first surprise was that they had to make their own beds and unpack. Once the pupils had settled in, they met their group leaders and talked about the planned activities. Lunch soon followed, after which the children had to clean up for themselves (this was a new experience for some people).

During the afternoon, the explorers set off on their first activities: a river study, bush craft, canoeing and rock climbing at Brimham Rocks. The children had some free time over the course of the trip when they mostly played football on the nearby field.

The children then ate tea and they particularly enjoyed their puddings. When the children had finished, they went back to their dorms and got ready for the evening activities: a centre quiz and an orienteering competition. Unfortunately, during the centre quiz, it started to pour with rain (typical!) and most of the children and their answer sheets got soaked.

When they had finished the quiz, the children were taught how to orienteer. They went around the centre trying to find little cubes called controls. They had to check that they had got the right one by reading the letters off the map and the numbers were the answers.

The spectacular duo, Samuel and Jacob, won by a whopping score of 210 points.

On returning to Clock House, many of the pupils reported that they had learnt several things including how to work harmoniously with different people.

A huge thank you to all of the pupils and staff who made the trip a success.



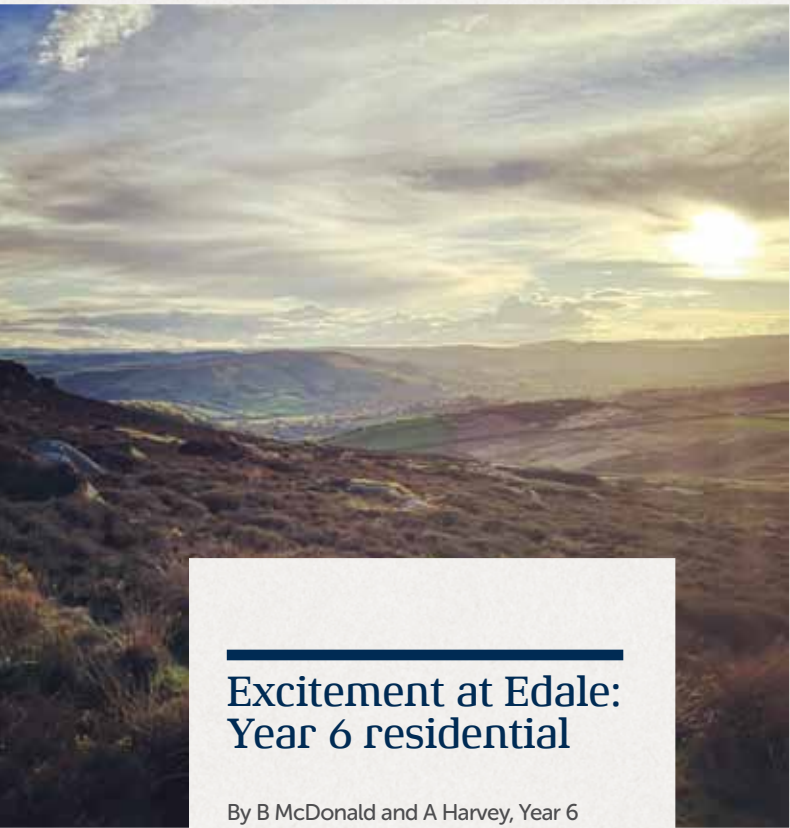
Younger pupils sample author's literary collection

By R Hare, Year 5

In September 2018, famous cyclist and author Chris Hoy shared his fantastic books with pupils in Years 2 and 3.

Chris is well known for his series of books titled 'Flying Fergus'. The books are about his childhood and are classed as adventure books. The protagonist in his books is a little boy who rides a magical bicycle.

Pupils very much liked that the illustrator drew pictures from the book whilst simultaneously talking about the plot and content of the book. Miss Smith, Year 2 teacher, stated: 'He was very polite and captivated many of our pupils' imaginations.'



Excitement at Edale: Year 6 residential

By B McDonald and A Harvey, Year 6

In April 2019, the Year 6 pupils travelled to Edale, in the Peak District, for their two day residential visit. When the enthusiastic pupils reached their YHA youth hostel, lunch was happily devoured.

After this, everyone was excited to find out where they were staying. Pupils were looking forward to (but were also apprehensive about) staying overnight with people they didn't normally spend much time with.

Next, the groups were allocated, and each group became familiar with their group leader. Soon after, the first activity commenced (which was different for every group). One of the activities was abseiling. This was a new experience for several pupils, but everybody attempted to lower themselves off a viaduct.

Some students were very anxious, but everyone appreciated the amazing opportunity. Luckily, the weather was in the pupils' favour and the activity was completed without any hiccups.

Thankfully, by the time a ferocious storm hit, most groups were safely in their mini bus heading back to the hostel but unfortunately some groups had to face the weather.



Back at the hostel, pupils refuelled with a delicious and nutritious dinner and were sent to their dormitories, where they played games until it was time for them to sleep. Although every pupil was exhausted, excitement filled the air and sleep wasn't welcome.

When the morning came, all the students were buzzing with enthusiasm as they were due to participate in another activity and then travel to Barlborough Hall to play in netball and rugby fixtures. The pupils were thrilled to partake in this experience at Barlborough because the location is unreachable from Bradford, therefore they had not competed against this school before. When the pupils returned, they were welcomed with more food, to give them enough energy for their next activity which continued into the evening. On the second night, the students promptly fell asleep as they were exhausted.

The next day, pupils woke and prepared for their last activity; this was truly entertaining, and the time passed rapidly. After two action packed days spent weaselling, abseiling, problem solving, orienteering, playing sport, doing archery and crate stacking, it was time to pack up and say goodbye and thank you for the amazing experience. The Year 6 pupils relished this opportunity and would recommend Edale as a superb location for future years.

The multi-skilled performer stunned pupils (and terrified the teachers) with his incredible samurai sword swinging tricks.

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Chris Bradford author visit

By A Khan and M Mercer, Year 5

In September 2018, Clock House pupils were visited by the award-winning author and black belt martial artist, Chris Bradford.

Pupils were honoured to meet Chris, a former musician who performed for her majesty the Queen many years ago. Best known for his children's fictional writing, Chris Bradford has written three series of books including, 'The Young Samurai', 'Body Guard' and 'Ninja'.

The multi-skilled performer stunned pupils (and terrified the teachers) with his incredible samurai sword swinging tricks. His astonishing martial arts skills were a reflection of his superb black belt credentials.

Pupils asked Chris whether he particularly enjoyed being an author and he commented: 'Yes and no since there are some good parts and some bad. I like planning, plotting and coming up with ideas. My favourite parts are the start and the end three chapters. I don't really like the middle since it is quite hard to come up with ideas.'

At the end of his performance, pupils were thrilled to have the unique opportunity to buy signed books and meet Chris.





Year 4 Residential

In October 2019, 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.



Events

Open Day

By A Harvey, Year 6

Open Day is an annual event, when current pupils and teachers showcase the fantastic facilities and learning opportunities available at Clock House.

The event took place on Saturday 6 October 2018. A multitude of activities were available including science demonstrations and tours of the Clock House garden. Leading visitors through activities and facilities within the Junior School were expert tour guides in the form of current Clock House pupils. The Computing and DT departments worked together to produce a co-curricular activity and this year, visitors were fortunate enough to create their very own personalised Bradford Grammar School clock, which they were invited to take home as a memento.

Specialist Art teacher, Mrs Morley, alongside Mrs Tatham, transformed one of the Junior School classrooms into a relaxation sanctuary with interactive art projects, such as windmill decorating, in unison with tranquil, artistic music.

As well as being able to participate in various activities, visitors could also listen to music performed by Clock House pupils, whilst enjoying complimentary refreshments. Many budding musicians played a wide range of instruments throughout the day including the trumpet, piano, clarinet, violin and cello. Overall, staff and volunteers were thrilled with the outcome of the day and relished the opportunity to showcase our fantastic school to many prospective parents.

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English teachers were stunned and delighted by the superb accolade of having so many wonderful winners.

Ilkley Literature Festival

By E Crookes, Year 6

The Ilkley Literature Festival is a popular festival that runs throughout the whole of October.

During this event, there are many shows, competitions and activities based on reading, writing, authors and illustrators. One of these was a poetry competition for primary school students. Over 250 children applied in each year group category, and Clock House were extremely proud to have had five winners. These were Eleanor C, Lizzie P, Archie S, Noor J and Rayyan A, who were all invited, with their families, to attend an awards ceremony at the end of the festival.

The judge of the competition was the incredibly talented poet, Andy Craven. He has written many fun poems for all ages, and at the beginning of the awards ceremony, everybody was lucky enough to hear him read one of his poems, which was about all the funny things his cat had done when it was younger. He also read another poem that he had written specially for the event, which included each of the competition winners' names so that everyone could get to know each other better.

Each of the winners was invited up to the front of the hall to read out their poem and receive their prize. Andy Craven then explained to the audience what he particularly liked about each prize-winning poem, and why it had been selected as a winning entry. English teachers were stunned and delighted by the superb accolade of having so many wonderful winners.



European Languages Week

By D Mustafa and A McMillan, Year 6

Bonjour! During the week beginning 24 September 2018, Clock House participated in the annual European Languages event that celebrates all of the wonderful languages that pupils learn about and speak from a wide range of different countries.

In a whole school assembly, pupils were fortunate enough to have two Senior School linguists (who were current Languages A level students) share their learning experiences in Modern Languages. The main focus of the assembly was French, German and Spanish music. Once the students had finished their speech, Clock House pupils had a chance to listen to the music and vote on which song they favoured the most. After teachers had counted the polls, pupils discovered that the school preferred the southern European Spanish music to the pop music of France and Germany.

In addition, during house meetings, teachers delivered a ten question quiz on the topic of the continent of Europe and associated facts.

Taste buds were satisfied when Year 6 experienced a French café where pupils consumed a wide range of continental foods and attempted to pronounce the names of the foods in French correctly i.e. popcorn sucré, les chips, l'eau et le chocolat – délicieux!



Harvest Appeal

By A Khan, Year 5 and C Nattress, Year 6

In November 2018, Clock House staff and pupils held the annual Harvest Appeal fundraising event, where pupils had the opportunity to buy and sell deliciously tantalising treats to raise money for specific charities.

A perfect mix of baking skills and entrepreneurial spirit culminated in an astonishingly successful outcome! After two days of dedication, this year's total was a record breaking £1,200. Senior School pupils, in addition to scoffing the culinary delights, were invited to participate in various games including 'guess the name of the teddy', where pupils predicted the name of the cuddly toy.

A stand out game, brought in by creative pupil Tommy, followed the theme of the famous literary classic, Harry Potter. The aim of this game was to throw a beanbag into a Quidditch hoop. If successful, pupils were awarded with a giant bag of sweets.

A huge thank you to all who supported this fantastic event.



Christmas Concert

By C Nattress, Year 6

In December 2018, Clock House pupils participated in their annual Christmas concert, celebrated by peers, teachers, parents and honoured guests.

To begin this wonderful event, pupils flooded into the Price Hall from different directions, singing 'Shepherds' Song' by Andy Silver.

Year 6 pupils warmly welcomed family and friends before settling in to enjoy this spectacular event. Other musical ensembles such as Guitar Group and Ukulele Group put smiles on the crowd members' faces as the musicians happily performed their pieces.

Up next was the Orchestra, stunning their awe-struck spectators by showing their variety of different musical talents. An appropriately dressed 'Drummer Boy' in his marvellous red costume accompanied by rhythmic drumming lifted the Christmas spirit.

Isabelle T performed the humorously titled song 'Percy the Puny Poinsettia' confidently. She was wearing a scarlet red, intricately designed outfit carefully made by Mrs Morley. The spectacular event was rounded off with a final reading and a whole school song that put everyone in a festive spirit ready for Christmas to begin!

Transition Day experiences

By a Year 6 Pupil

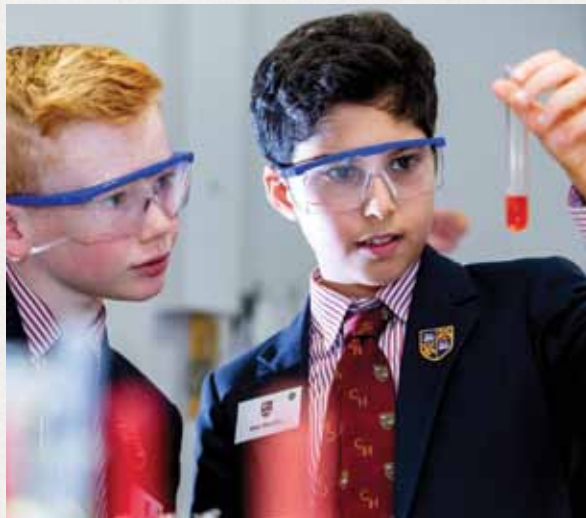
When I woke up in the morning, I promptly realised that we had our transition day. As this fact sunk in to my conscience, a strange feeling of nervousness, yet excitement, filled my stomach.

Once reality had hit and I had arrived at school, I recognised the magnitude of the situation. After registration, half of the year group exited Clock House and began their journey to becoming a Senior School pupil.

As we entered, Mrs Tomlinson (the Head of Year 7) greeted us and showed us to the DH room. She explained, using a slideshow, the activities and plan for the day. After being given a bag containing equipment, such as a water bottle and notebook, we divided into two groups and then proceeded to our first lesson, German. We were educated about many ice cream flavours and the pronunciation of their names. We were later designated the task of learning speeches and performing them in different situations. After this, we progressed down the languages corridor and arrived at the classical studies classroom. Mrs Chapman explained to us the similarities between Latin and English and enlightened us on many modern day markings i.e. the lettering on the coins and the inscriptions on Big Ben and how they are linked to the Latin language.

In the lunch hall, we were greeted by a Sixth Form student, who shared their experience of Senior School. Instead of having an outdoor break, we had a chance to meet current Year 7 pupils, who discussed things such as homework and lessons with us.

We spent our afternoon participating in various team-building exercises, such as building a Lego structure and describing a picture. Once we had finished, we went home knowing that we had completed our first step towards becoming Senior School students.



Dear Diary

By a Year 6 Pupil

On 17 January 2018, I awoke slightly nervous, but no less excited, as I knew there would be a fun day ahead; it was the Year 7 taster day! Swiftly I changed into my uniform and jumped into the car ready for the event ahead of me.

Once at school, I gathered all my belongings and headed off to Senior School with my friends beside me. At first, Mrs Tomlinson gave us all a warm welcome and explained the different activities taking place that day. Eagerly, we set off to our first lesson which was Classical Studies. It was very interesting to learn that most English words are formed by, or are similar to, Latin words such as 'aqua', 'herba', 'villa' and 'schola'. I also realised that learning Latin enables you to read and understand inscriptions on ancient buildings around the world.

Next, my friends and I immersed ourselves in the science labs where we enjoyed first-hand practical experiments with acids and alkalis. By dipping different solutions into a beaker and adding in a liquid indicator, we watched chemicals as they turned into warm colours if they were an acid and into cold colours if they were an alkaline. It was really interesting for the budding scientists amongst us to have the opportunity to use more of the laboratories.

Afternoon arrived and we trooped into the Brownlee Pavilion where Mrs Tomlinson and Dr Hinchliffe had various teamwork activities prepared for us. Here we learned a lot about co-operating and working in a team whilst the hours whizzed by!

Soon we were all heading back to Clock House, discussing how awesome the day had been! The Taster Day had been a great success and had given us a brief and exciting insight into what Year 7 will hold!

Children’s Mental Health Week

By E Crookes, Year 6

Clock House enjoyed partaking in many calming but fun activities to help raise awareness of Children’s Mental Health week. This year’s theme was ‘mental health is everyone’s business.’ These activities included:

- An assembly by Mrs Morley, where pupils (and teachers) learnt about how to keep our bodies healthy, both physically and mentally, and watched a video to help us stop from over worrying and learn how to clear our minds.
- Wearing clothes that made us feel happy and comfortable, whether it was a superhero costume, pyjamas, sportswear, or even just your favourite fluffy jumper!
- Mindfulness and meditation. For this calming event, we had a couple of our lovely Sixth Form mentors, who recapped how to keep a healthy mind and played us another meditation video; it was so relaxing that many pupils almost fell asleep!
- Making fruit kebabs. This was a fun, relaxing and very tasty activity, that many pupils enjoyed.
- Pupils enjoyed extended house meetings, where they where pupils were invited to show an object or thing that made them happy, such as a picture of their pet, a football, dance shoes or their favourite teddy.

Pupils thoroughly enjoyed this super week and learnt many positive strategies to support them in keeping their minds and bodes as healthy as possible.



House Music Competition

M Mercer and M Dickinson, Year 5

House music is a competition that encourages pupils to perform musically to a live audience. They can perform in groups or as soloists. Pupils can play their instruments or select their own songs to sing.

Categories

In house music there are different categories. Entrants are split into soloists and ensembles. There are also musical categories and singing. In the categories, there are usually three further subcategories: beginners, intermediates and advanced.

House Points

In house music, pupils can earn house points irrespective of their finishing place. If pupils enter or are awarded third place, they earn one house point, for second place they earn two house points and for first place they earn three house points.

Winning

House music winners are selected to perform at the Spring Concert or Speech Day, in order that they can share their special talents with others.

This year’s competition took place on the 20 and 21 March and there were many successes.

We thank our supportive parents for coming along and actively cheering our acts on. The hard work undertaken by our music teachers and entrants is also hugely appreciated.



Young Voices

By Miss Marsden, teacher and Academic Coordinator

On Wednesday 13 February 2019, Clock House pupils were proud to participate in a stunning musical event, Young Voices, hosted at Manchester Arena.

Over the past 24 years, Young Voices has staged full-scale arena concerts with first class production values nationwide. With over two million children having taken part in Young Voices to date, the founders of the ever-growing event believe passionately in inspiring the next generation to find their love for music in the hope that it will last a lifetime.

In the run up to the event, Mrs Alderson rehearsed regularly with a group of 35 pupils as part of the Clock House choir. On the performing night, an astonishing 6,924 children participated as part of the choir. Many Clock House parents travelled to spectate and support pupils and they were fortunate enough to be treated to performances from Hip Hop dancers Urban Strides and Sharlene Hector – the lead singer of the band Basement Jaxx. Tony Hadley, the lead singer of 80s band Spandau Ballet, made a guest appearance (much to Mrs Allen’s delight) although many of our pupils were somewhat bemused as to who he was!

The following day, pupils commented that the event had been both ‘electrifying’ and ‘memorable’. Thank you to all of the staff, parents and pupils who made this fantastic event possible.



“

... the founders of the ever-growing event believe passionately in inspiring the next generation to find their love for music ...

Sport

Girls cricket history!

By A McMillan and G Singh, Year 6

Girls made history at BGS by playing cricket competitively for the first time.

In previous years, the wonderful sport of cricket has only been available to boys at Clock House, but recently, BGS decided to make it available across both genders. Numerous independent schools have committed to competing in both boys' and girls' cricketing competitions. This has resulted in all children having an enhanced amount of competitive match time. Several sports coaches believe that playing cricket improves pupils' general sporting skills and helps them to understand the dynamics of a team game.

One of the main reasons why BGS has decided to introduce cricket to the girls' curriculum is because of its great accessibility across the county of Yorkshire. There is a multitude of well-known and highly respected cricket clubs in the school's local vicinity, which can comfortably expand and nurture cricketing ability.

A remarkable example of cricketing success in Clock House comes from Year 4 pupil, Lizzie, who is now able to develop her cricketing capabilities both within and outside of school. Lizzie was recently selected to play for the West Yorkshire Warriors U9s - U11s District Cricket Team. We look forward to seeing similar successes for the pupils of Clock House and BGS in the coming years.

Gymnastics: Trio of success

By A Khan and R Hare, Year 5

Gymnastics is a sport that includes exercises requiring balance, strength, flexibility, agility and endurance.

Impressively, we have several pupils who have a talent for gymnastics and who enjoy entering inter-school regional competitions. Practice sessions take place in gymnastics club, run by subject specialist, Miss Camp.

Our junior journalists have been fortunate enough to interview some rising stars in this field: Isabelle, Fia and Robyn, who have entered many competitions both representing their school and their gymnastics clubs.

Isabelle stated: 'I practise four to five times a week and I have entered twenty competitions – five of which I have won.' Having had four years of practice, she still gets nervous about competitions. Her biggest achievement is a round off flick straight back movement. Isabelle would definitely recommend gymnastics to others as it is fun and not too hard. She recommends starting off with easy moves and working your way up.

Robyn shared her own experiences: 'I have entered four competitions and have won all of them. I have been learning gymnastic skills for seven years. My greatest achievement is a hand spring on vault, round off flick straight and aerial on a spring board.'

Fia also reported: 'I have entered seven competitions and have won three of them. I have been mastering the sport of gymnastics since I was four years old. I think my greatest achievement is gaining a gold medal in a difficult gymnastics competition.'

The pupils are very lucky to have fantastic PE and sports staff supporting them, in particular, Mrs Jones and Miss Camp.



The future of PE and Games at Clock House

By E Crookes, Year 6

Mrs Jones is the newly appointed Head of Junior School PE and Games, having previously taught PE at BGS for nine years. E Crookes spoke to Mrs Jones to find out more about her vision for the future of sport at Clock House ...

What were you doing before you chose to join BGS as a PE teacher?
Before I joined BGS, I was teaching PE at Thornton Grammar School.

How are you organising games this year?
Year 2 and 3 will do a generic sports' programme to get them ready for fixtures and competitive sports, whilst Years 4, 5 and 6 will be training for matches and fixtures.

How are things changing?
There is a new timetable for all games' lessons throughout the whole school for the year. I am hoping that the sports clubs' programme will become more regular.

What are your hopes and goals for the pupils for the end of the year?

- For everyone to have enjoyed games and PE
- For everyone to take part in at least one sports' club
- To be proud of representing BGS
- That every pupil makes progress
- That pupils are competitive when they play in fixtures



New sports' facilities are being built, but how is this going to improve/affect games and PE for Clock House pupils?
The new sports' facilities are top class and provide more flexibility in what we can offer in games and PE lessons. The increased amount of space will mean that we can teach in lots of different ways and play more sports such as badminton.

Tell me about some of the achievements and victories that the Clock House sports' teams have achieved so far.
In netball, the under 10s are so far unbeaten with a draw against Bronte House and a victory against Wakefield. In rugby, the under 11 boys scored more tries than Bronte House. In swimming, we had a really close gala against Ashville and lots of children have performed really well in cross country fixtures.

Tell me about the other fixtures that we have been on ...
The under 11 netball team played against Richmond House and the pupils were competitive. The under 9 and under 10 teams have attended rugby festivals and learnt lots.

What do you think about Clock House pupils participating in fixtures?
Pupils learn a lot attending fixtures. It is good experience for them to learn how to cooperate as a team. The fixtures need to be appropriate in terms of challenge and as local as possible to minimise travel times.

I know that girls' cricket has worked itself into the curriculum. Why have you chosen this change?
Cricket is a growing game, so if we don't make this change we may get left behind.



Tennis talk

By D Mystafa, Year 6

Henry is a Year 6 pupil at Clock House who is very talented at tennis and has won various tennis awards. Read on to find out more about his journey.

Do you encourage others to try tennis or any other sports?
Yes because we need everyone to exercise and stay fit so why not have fun at the same time?

What do you think is the best part about tennis and why do you think this?
The best part about tennis is when you meet new and different players because you need to learn their tactics and weaknesses so you can counter their attack and finish the set!

Why do you think tennis is fun?
Because you can always discover and try different types of playing such as if you normally serve wide, serve centre!

Why and where did you start tennis?
I started at David Lloyd Milton Keynes with the best instructor called Jason who inspired me to play tennis and also, my family enjoy playing tennis!

How long have you been playing tennis and how has it benefited you?
I have been playing tennis since I was two, so for eight years in total, and I have become more interested in sport.

Is it necessary to be good at tennis to enjoy the sport?
No, because you can play with your family and friends even if they're not that good.

Why do you think tennis is better than other sports?
Because it is never the same match twice and you always learn new and exciting tactics and strategies.

Do you need to spend thousands of pounds on the best equipment to be good?
No, because, for example, my dad doesn't actually have a racket and when we play as a family he uses my mum's spare racket, which is completely and utterly terrible, but he still enjoys playing tennis.

Which sport is tennis most like?
Cricket because it involves sophisticated concentration and in depth hand-eye coordination.



Aspirations of a runner

By E Crookes, Year 6

Edward B, in Year 3, started running at the age of six years old, when he was encouraged by his parents to attempt a 5km park run. He considered it and agreed because he wanted to become faster than his older brother.

Running is one of his favourite hobbies, along with contact rugby. His biggest inspiration is the famous award-winning runner Usain Bolt and as a result, he is determined to become a famous runner in the Olympics one day.
Edward would definitely recommend running to others, even if it is just trying out the school running club. He says that it helps you keep fit and healthy and is actually really fun.

Edward confessed: 'When I run, I feel confident and determined because I want to beat my record or win the race. When I finally finish a race, I feel relieved and tired but also happy and proud that I have achieved my goal.'

Inter-house Sports

In 2019, Clock House pupils participated in an exhilarating inter-house sports competition. As part of the event, pupils competed against one another during their PE and games lesson in order to secure points for their respective houses.

The scores on the doors are listed on the left.
The final totals were extremely close but the overall winner was Founders with an astounding 259 points!
A huge well done to all staff and pupils who participated, and a big thank you to Mrs Jones for organising such an exciting competition. We certainly have some future sportsmen and women in our midst.

//
The best part about tennis is when you meet new and different players ...

Henry, Year 6

| | Bradford | Founders | Royal | Freemen |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Year 2 & 3 SHA | 66 | 59 | 54 | 62 |
| Year 2 & 3 Swimming | 21 | 34 | 35 | 40 |
| Year 4 Hockey | 12 | 30 | 12 | 10 |
| Year 4 Swimming | 31 | 39 | 39 | 20 |
| Year 5 & 6 Swimming | 69 | 75 | 71 | 86 |
| Year 5 & 6 Rugby | 30 | 4 | 22 | 12 |
| Year 5 & 6 Netball | 14 | 18 | 18 | 22 |
| Overall Points/ Position | 243 4th | 259 1st | 251 3rd | 252 2nd |

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Senior School and Sixth Form

Arts and Performance

Arts and Performance

Clay extravaganza

Over a period of two weeks, the Art department ran a ceramic activities day with Year 6 pupils from Gleddings and Ghyll Royd Primary Schools. The day was set up to encourage interest in the arts and understand how clay can be explored using objects from nature. Each pupil made a tile personal to themselves, adding texture, shapes and form. They all explored pressing objects into clay, shaping forms and attaching to a tile body. The sessions were energetic and explorative and it was clear each pupil loved the possibility clay gave them to stretch their imagination. The pupils shared experiences and skills creating a selection of very busy and expressive tiles.



Youth Speaks team

Two teams from BGS took part in the annual Rotary Club public speaking competition 'Youth Speaks'.

Sukruth, Courtney and Tom from Year 10 competed in the senior category, choosing the topic 'Global Warming: our Future'. Will Morton, Fahim Hussain and Ahmad Hussain from Year 8 competed in the Intermediate category with a talk on 'Artificial Intelligence: Friend or Foe?'.

All six students did the school proud, and although neither team progressed to the next round, Will Morton was awarded the prize for Best Speaker for his compelling and well-informed glimpse into a future world making use of Artificial Intelligence (AI).



Computer Science and Cybersecurity

In 2018, we were lucky enough to get a team to the national finals of Cyber Centurion, and a pupil in the Bebras challenge. In 2019, we have done it again!

Cyber Centurion took place in the autumn term, with pupils enduring 18 hours of competition trying to fix vulnerabilities in flawed computer systems to make them more secure. We were the school with the most teams entered nationally, including several younger teams in the new category 'Junior Track' for pupils 12 to 14 years old. One of our teams made it to the final (again). The four Year 13 pupils: Daniel McNab, Ahrus Asim, Zain Hussain and Saif Panni made it to the final last year and have fought through to get down to the last 10 teams again.

In 2018, Alex Davies got into the national final of the Bebras Challenge, but in 2019, there is a new kid on the block; Tom Hunt came top in the Year 7 category and will be attending the final at University of Oxford.

Other competitions Bradford Grammar School pupils have entered include: CyberFirst for Girls (Year 8 girls); Cyber Discovery; British Informatics Olympiad; Perse Coding Team Challenge and the TCS Oxford Computing Challenge. We've also got two teams entering Pi Wars with their Raspberry Pi controlled robots at the end of March 2019.

Art Society

The Art Department supports independent learning each day during lunchtime. Pupils attend the art rooms to explore and experience new materials of their own choice and develop work for cross-curricular subjects.

The Department hosts special work clubs, including marbling paper with Year 7 and splatter discs with Year 9 during the first term, and supports all exam students with individual guidance every Thursday and Friday lunchtime.

The Art Department is always a busy part of the school and one which pupils find relaxing, giving them the freedom to express their own interests. To support examination groups the Art Department runs an after school society to help Year 10 and Year 11 produce work for their portfolio. Students in Year 12 are also encouraged to participate in life drawing sessions, which have proven supportive in developing their observational skills. All this is provided in a happy, secure environment where pupils' confidence grows through expressing their feelings, beliefs and understanding.

“
It feels rewarding ... being
recognised in such a
beautiful art gallery.

Alaynah, Year 13



Exhibition follows in Hockney's footsteps

In December 2018, pupils had the opportunity to showcase their artistic talents at one of David Hockney's favourite galleries.

BGS celebrated its ninth biennial public art exhibition at the Cartwright Hall, displaying artwork produced by pupils across the senior school.

The hall features a dedicated gallery about the life and work of Hockney, a former student at BGS.

Twins Alaynah and Myrah Khan were ecstatic about having their work displayed. Alaynah said: 'It feels rewarding having my hard work pay off and being recognised in such a beautiful art gallery. I also feel privileged to have my artwork displayed at one of David Hockney's favourite art galleries surrounded by a variety of such beautiful artwork.'

The Spanish Street artist Miguel Ángel Belincho, who is better known as Belin, inspired me. I was fascinated by Belin's hyper realistic portraits that tend to have a Cubist twist to them.

I decided to use my own face and combine various intricate pieces of my artwork, ranging from coloured pencils to oil paint. It also includes Maori patterns which are rich in symbolism, ultimately allowing me to produce a piece of work that's both experimental and expressive.'

Myrah agrees that art is fundamentally vital for creative learning: 'I strongly agree that art is a way for individuals to express themselves and is surely all around us; in language and culture. More importantly, art is a subject which differentiates itself from the other subjects such as sciences, as it allows students to think more open-mindedly. We are given the opportunity to find out what we are best at, by exploring with a wide range of mediums, which BGS excels at.'

Head of Art at the time at BGS, 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 in their personal development and wellbeing, because it gives them a chance to evaluate themselves, their work and to come out of their comfort zone.'

'It also provides them with spontaneity, self-confidence and builds up their creative skill set that then carries through to other subjects and into adulthood. Arts subjects are under threat nationally but thankfully not at BGS.'

Sonja Kielly, Cartwright Hall Curator, said: 'It's fabulous for BGS pupils to present their work in the place where David Hockney would often visit – the grand Edwardian art gallery across the road from his former school. It's also a lovely opportunity for the school to support the arts locally and encourage more young people to get creative.'





Pupils’ art showcase raises over £1,000 for NSPCC

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.’

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

Michelle Poucher
Local Schools Service Coordinator
for the NSPCC



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.’



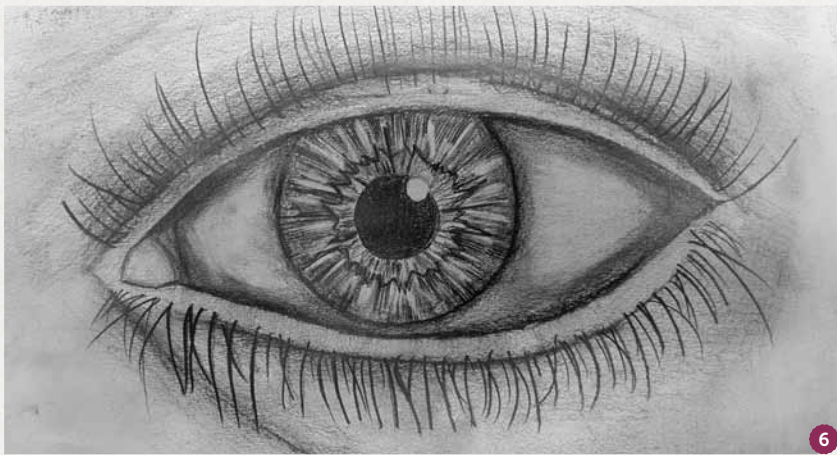
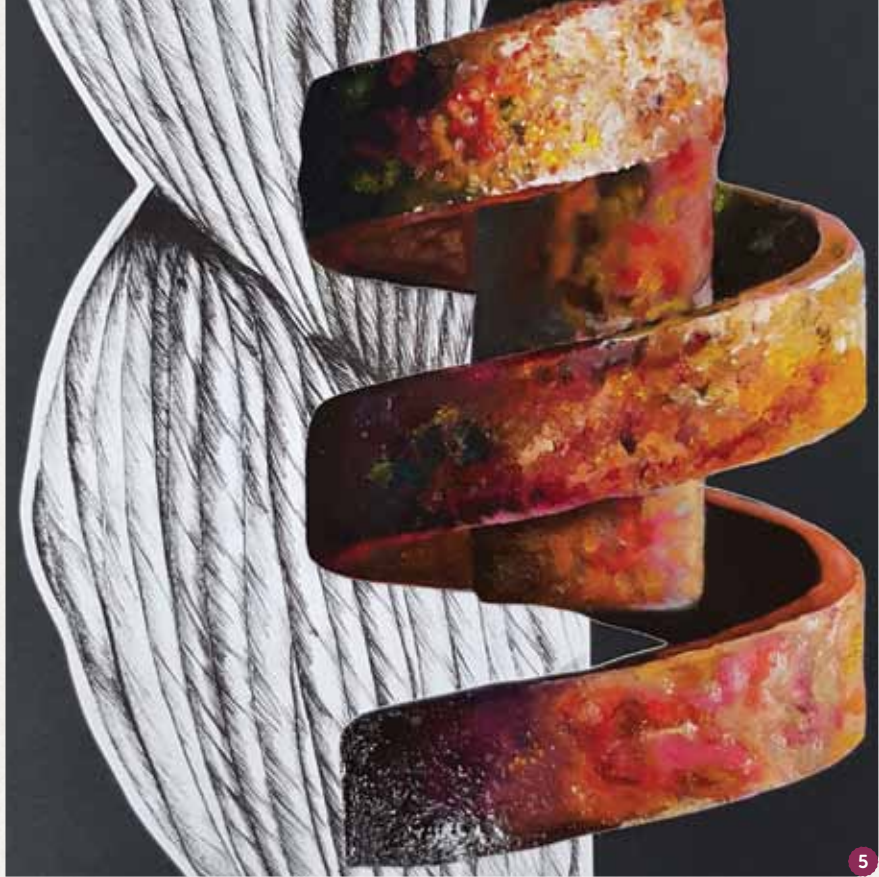
Children’s creative award winner!

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.

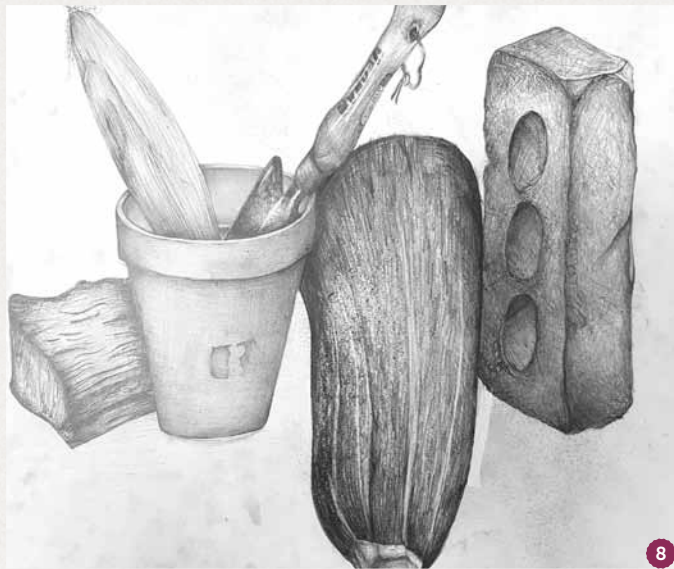
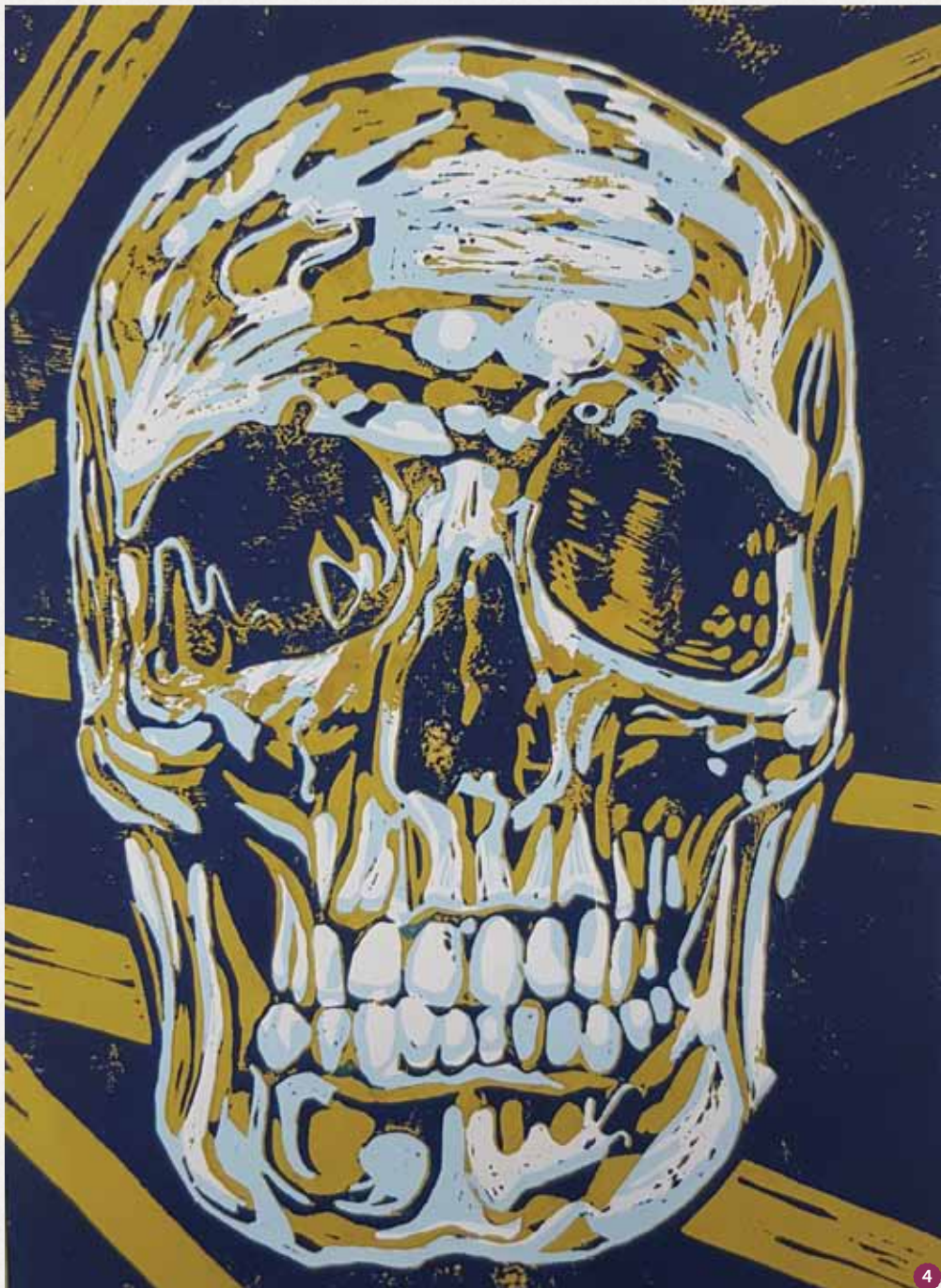
The independent panel of adjudicators praised the quality of the entries. They said: ‘The quality of the entries for this year’s competition made judging them very difficult, but also really exciting. It was a real pleasure to be able to read these pieces and brilliant to see so many promising young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





Artists of the term

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



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Communities, Societies and Activities

Best ever GCSE results

126 talented students from BGS celebrated another rise in top grades.

A record-breaking 76 percent of all exams taken were awarded A/A* or 9-7 grades, well over three times higher than the national average of recent years (Pupils at BGS take a mixture of IGCSEs and GCSEs, graded either 9-1 or A*-G). The A/A*/9-7 cumulative pass rate is the highest ever at Bradford Grammar School and A*ABC is 99 percent.

Dr 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, irrespective of the grades they achieve.

'The success we are celebrating today represents only one piece of the whole educational package at BGS, where a rich and diverse co-curricular programme is characterised by a wealth of opportunities, inside and outside of the classroom. Whilst we acknowledge and celebrate deserved GCSE achievements, there is much more to life than exam results alone – striking a balance is important.

'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.'



Outstanding A Level success

BGS's 123 A Level students celebrated outstanding successes this year, with 17 percent of all exams awarded A* and 54 percent A*/A grades.

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

'Beyond the headlines, we are celebrating the many individual accomplishments that represent a personal success for those students who did themselves justice at all levels of achievement. A life-enhancing education is open to all at BGS with many exciting opportunities outside the classroom in the arts, sports, community projects and various clubs and societies. We care about the whole person at BGS; outstanding exam results deserve to be celebrated, but they are just one part of a much bigger picture.'



First World War Centenary observations

Bradford Grammar School marked the First World War centenary with a partnership between the Old Bradfordians Association and the Old Bradfordians Club (London), honouring each Old Bradfordian who gave their life to serve their country.

The school also united in a minute's silence during the last assembly before Remembrance Sunday and displayed biographies of OBs who fell around school and online.

Year 9 cross-curricular First World War Day

September 2018, the History Department organised our first cross-curricular day off-timetable for Year 9 to enhance their study of the First World War. We were delighted to welcome the interpretation team at Lancashire Museums who arrived in role as WW1 Noncommissioned Officers (NCOs) and put the students through their paces, literally.

They were drilled by the Sergeant-Major, studied kit with the Quarter-Master, explored the realities of trench life and the Nurse explained medical care and triage in the trenches. To emphasise that the First World War has links across academic subjects, the Chemistry Department explored the work and morality of Nobel Prize-winning chemist Fritz Harber, responsible for synthesising ammonia for use in explosives and fertilisers. The Biology Department explored the development of antiseptics and the English department gave moving poetry workshops.



Internationally acclaimed cricketer inspires students at BGS

An acclaimed former Yorkshire batsman and Old Bradfordian told students at BGS to ‘work hard, learn the value of resilience and enjoy life’ during Yorkshire Tea National Cricket Week.

Ashley Metcalfe, a renowned former first-class cricketer, and current chief executive of British Weightlifting, spoke to an audience of students, parents and staff during Bradford Grammar School’s 2018 prestigious annual Speech Day.

Ashley said: ‘When I was asked by the headmaster to talk about the advice that really made a difference to my life, I referred to a colleague who said she “woke up every morning and chose her own attitude” – she chose to be positive. I think this is very powerful, that you can chose to maximise opportunities and you’re in the driving seat.

‘I’ve always found the notion of success interesting. It means different things to different people. To one person they may associate it with career progression. Personally, I like to leave a business in a stronger position than when I first started – to build something. If you can learn to deal with failure the same way you deal with success, then the world’s your oyster.’

‘It was a great honour to be back at Bradford Grammar School and a real pleasure to see how the school has developed over the years, particularly the new sporting facilities. It was lovely to speak to such genuinely enthusiastic students.’



Schools’ linking programme goes from strength to strength

At the heart of schools linking lies a simple idea – giving our pupils a chance to interact and engage with other pupils that they would not normally have a chance to meet.

Such interaction helps to break down barriers, increase social awareness, improve emotional intelligence and help community cohesion. With all this in mind, it is hugely encouraging to see that the links between BGS and Oasis Academy Lister Park has been going from strength to strength each year.

This year, there are links between pupils across four year groups with lots of opportunities for collaborative work and dialogue around the themes of identity, diversity, community and equality. Most recently, Year 8 pupils from both schools came together to explore the artwork of David Hockney and work in collaboration on key activities. The feedback from pupils and staff involved was overwhelmingly positive as always.

Cyber crime unit launches challenge 2019

The Yorkshire and Humber Regional Cyber Crime Unit launched the Matrix Challenge 2019 at BGS.

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.’



Carnival Time!

Championing 2019’s theme ‘Shows and Musicals’, and launched by 2018’s winner Evie Connor, BGS was proud to sponsor the 2019 Ilkley Festival.

Kids from Ilkley could enter a competition to have their artwork on the front cover of this year’s Ilkley Carnival programme. Entries can be a drawing, painting or digital design.

The competition hoped to inspire local children (aged 5-16) to produce a drawing, painting or design which would feature on the front cover of the carnival programme, which is read by more than 10,000 people who visit the showground.

Dr Hinchliffe said: ‘We place a high importance on creativity at BGS, whether our pupils are making music, taking part in great theatre or producing compelling art. We’re delighted once again to be part of this fantastic event in Ilkley and to support the next generation of young artists.’

THE SUNDAY TIMES
Northern Independent School of the Year 2018

Ranked top three in the North 2019

Top three in ‘Sunday Times’

BGS has been listed in the top three independent schools in the North of England in the ‘Sunday Times’ Schools Guide 2019.

The ratings are collated using Parent Power, which is acknowledged as the most authoritative survey of the UK’s best schools. BGS was named Northern Independent School of the Year in the 2018 list.

Dr Hinchliffe, BGS Headmaster, said: ‘At Bradford Grammar School we are delighted to have been recognised once again as a leading independent secondary school in the north. Good news for Bradford, good news for Yorkshire. We enjoy learning and school life is rich and varied both inside and outside the classroom.

Last summer our A Level results were very strong and GCSEs broke school records. Our success reflects a happy and hardworking school that pulls together to get the best out of everyone.’

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 the Junior Chamber International (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 President in 2019.. We look forward to a year under her leadership.



New Deputy Headmaster

BGS has appointed a new Deputy Headmaster from among its esteemed staff. Jed Boardman has worked at BGS for 20 years. He began his career as a police officer in Manchester before moving into teaching.

Jed Boardman taught physics at St Peter's School, in York, for three years before becoming Head of Physics at Fulneck School, in Pudsey, where he stayed for five years. He joined BGS 20 years ago and held various positions, including Head of Year 7, Year 10 and Year Year 11, and Head of Physics.

Jed said of his new role: 'I'm delighted to take up this privileged position, BGS is a great place to work. It provides a world class education for its students and all the staff, both teaching and non-teaching, are a first class team. The teachers are specialists in their fields and are passionate about the art of teaching.

'The students are fantastic, they are academically and emotionally intelligent and have a genuine thirst for knowledge which is coupled with a desire to succeed. A BGS education provides its students with so many opportunities to develop their softer skills which are so essential for success in life.'

Dr Hinchliffe said: 'Jed is a terrific teacher and a warm and principled human being. He cares deeply about the students and colleagues at BGS and I have no doubt that he will make a valued contribution to the future direction and the success of our remarkable school.'

“

I'm delighted to take up this privileged position ...

Jed Boardman
Deputy Headmaster

Senior School and Sixth Form
Communities, Societies and Activities

'We're a world away from making a spice rack for your mum'

By Stuart Taylor, Head of Design Technology

I can remember one student coming to our department once saying they had double maths, physics and further maths and that they just wanted to come here and make something. My aim as Head of Design Technology is to make this a space where students can make whatever's in their head.

At BGS, the children make their own products. We're currently working on a stove for developing countries, for example, as an A Level project. We found that many of these stoves were giving off carbon monoxide and that more people were dying of carbon monoxide than they did from malaria. We're developing one which has a catalytic convertor which converts the carbon monoxide to carbon dioxide. That's typical of the kind of project we might do.

Whatever we do, our aim is to make it to shop quality. We use really nice materials, like American Black Walnut, and our materials are kept in temperature-controlled environments. We're essentially doing industrial level manufacturing in a school. In the past, schools would have said 'make a light'. Now it's about looking for a market opportunity. It's interviewing the client and finding out what the market wants. That's the difference between old and new.



We're in a unique position because we're the glue between maths and science. We work as closely as we can with different departments. It's a real collaboration. By drawing on all these different areas of the school we've been able to get our kids up to the highest standards because our manufacturing base is so good. We come under the same regulations as a factory and we have industry standard machinery, such as two laser cutters, and two computer-aided design (CAD) suites.

We find we send the kids off to do design, architecture and engineering once they leave here – we're pretty good at facilitating all of that and allowing our students to start specialising a little bit earlier. If they want to do architecture, we can give them an architect's brief at A Level so when they go to an interview they're part way down the road. Our former students are doing all kinds of different jobs, from building bridges to developing engines for Rolls Royce.

Our students have really interesting careers ahead of them where they can make a real difference. They can end up travelling and working abroad on fantastic projects and with innovative companies. Design Technology gives them a flavour of that. The subject has got wider and we're finding that the skill sets they learn here are really transferable. Basically, we're a world away from making a spice rack for your mum.





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 for the project came from the Bloodhound Supersonic car which is intended to break the land speed record of over 1,000 mph!

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!

“

Esther is a great help at the weekly sessions and is very popular with the young swimmers.

Jade Wyke
Head Coach

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 Esther. ‘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.’

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.

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.

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 Hinchliffe 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.



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.

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.

//

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

Dean Winter
BGS Executive Chef



Linguatrivia competition

All Year 7 pupils entered the now annual Linguatrivia competition at the end of the summer term.

As ever, the standard was very high. All entrants received a gift just for participating and the top three in each form received additional prizes and certificates. A special mention must however go to Mariam Butt, our French winner, and Laura Kraft, our German winner, for achieving the highest scores in the whole of Year 7.

Sixth Form Volunteering

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

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 and discuss in Parliament and discuss the changes facing single parents and challenge government policy makers.

Year 12 students formed three teams to work together on the Neesie project.

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





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. She helped 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.

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 come for intake, and although a large number get sponsored and are able to join, there are still a lot of children who are unfortunately turned away.

BGS was lucky enough to be able to see them sing, dance and meet BGS pupils of all ages throughout the school.

For more information visit educatethekids.com



Inspiring children to pick up a racket

In 2019, BGS teamed up with Skipton Tennis Centre (STC) to run a youth tennis competition, which saw more than 20 seven to eight and nine 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.'

Visit from bestselling children's author

Youngsters from BGS and local schools learnt the art of storytelling from a popular author. Bestselling children's author Ross Welford visited BGS with advice for budding writers.

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.

The visit was part of an outreach programme with the Ilkley Literature Festival, and pupils from local schools including Gleddings, Baildon C Of E, Tranmere Park, Eldwick, Ghyll Royd, Westville House, Moorfield, Harden and Froebelian, all had the pleasure of meeting Ross and getting their many books signed!

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 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.'

European Day of Languages

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 stalls, based on France, Germany and Spain. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the event and the children went home with very happy memories of their morning at BGS.

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Senior School and Sixth Form

Trips

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Trips

Junior Classics trip to the Bay of Naples

Our 4.30am start could not dampen the spirits of the forty Year 8 and 9 pupils setting off to the Bay of Naples just before half term.

The recent landslide on the slopes of Mount Vesuvius meant that the trip began, not with our usual ascent, but instead with a descent into the fascinating network of passages below modern Naples, some dating back to when the Greeks founded the city and gave it its name (Nea Polis – New City), and many used much more recently as shelters from Allied bombing in World War II.

Our packed itinerary took us also to the well-preserved Roman Villa at Oplontis, and most poignantly into the remarkable streets, shops and homes of the first century inhabitants of Herculaneum and Pompeii.

This was a most memorable experience for us all.

Classics Trip to London

Classics students enjoyed an exciting and varied day in London, taking in the British Museum’s Elgin marbles, Greek sculpture and pottery, and artefacts relating to daily life in Greece and Rome.

They also experienced University College London’s production of Sophocles’ Oedipus Rex (in which, rather unusually, the messenger from Corinth stole the show) and finally the fascinating and justly acclaimed Anglo-Saxon exhibition at the British Library.

European Day of Languages

The Modern Languages Department celebrated the European Day of Languages in September with a multilingual celebration comprising French face-painting, a German Oktoberfest and Spanish food-tasting, each accompanied by a quiz. The event was well-attended, with standing room only for the majority of lunchtime.

At the event, we announced the winner of the annual language assistant quiz. This was won, for the second year in a row, by Laura Kraft, who achieved an impressive 28/30, demonstrating her extensive knowledge of life in France, Germany and Spain.

Alongside our lunchtime celebrations, there were special events in Modern Languages lessons, with Year 7 completing a Passport to Europe, Year 8 a French or German quiz and Year 9 challenged to find words with the same meaning in both English and another language, which also began with the same letter. The Year 12 Italian enrichment class also had the chance to find out about festivals in Italy.

The Modern Languages department hopes that everyone enjoyed the week.

Battlefields of the First World War

The outpouring of centenary commemorations made this a particularly poignant year for the long-established GCSE trip to the First World War battlefields of northern France and Belgium.

Sixty three Year 11 Historians made the journey this year with a focus, not just on the actual battles, but also on the war’s multi-cultural aspects and how it has been, and continues to be, commemorated by succeeding generations.

We were able to follow the stories of a number of Old Bradfordians (OBs) throughout the trip. A special ceremony was held in Arras military cemetery to recognise nine OBs commemorated on its walls. There we found Sikh, Hindu and Muslim graves amongst the British casualties.



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Our packed itinerary took us also to the well-preserved Roman Villa at Oplontis, and most poignantly into the remarkable streets, shops and homes of the first century inhabitants of Herculaneum and Pompeii.

Vecht rowing trip

The first weekend in October saw 25 members of the Boat Club travelling to Gramsbergen in the Netherlands for the 'Vecht' race, hosted by Salland Rowing Club, an international rowing event over a distance of 6km.

The boys and girls also had the opportunity to partake in some good quality long distance training outings prior to the race itself. The value of this training was shown in the results with the J15 coxed quad and J15 double winning their respective events in the J16 age category, a tremendous achievement.

Every crew that raced acquitted themselves extremely well with the girls J18 double and boys J16 coxed four, only narrowly missing wins in their categories.

Vecht racing in the Netherlands

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

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



French exchange

2019 marked 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.

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.



Iceland

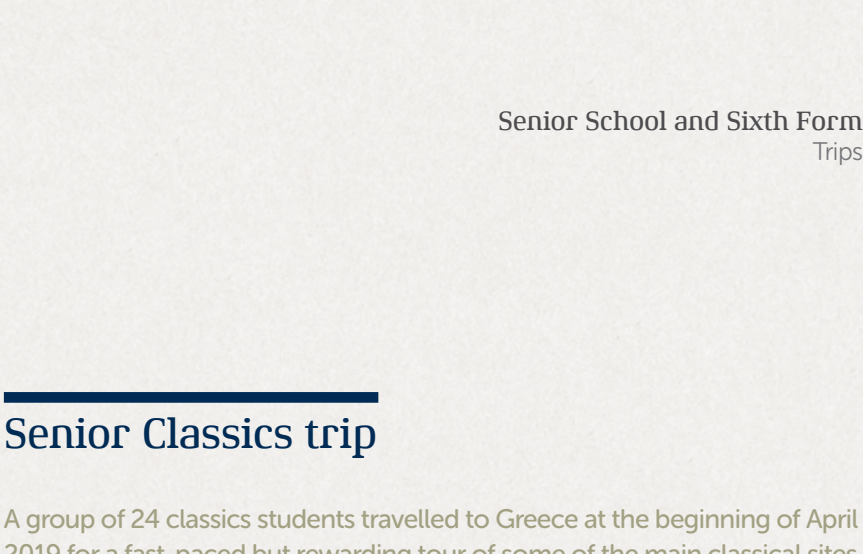
Forty intrepid students from Years 8 to 11 experienced a wide variety of landscapes up close and personal.

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!

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.



Senior Classics trip

A group of 24 classics students travelled to Greece at the beginning of April 2019 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.

Senior netball tour

Senior pre-season overseas tour to Australia.

The girls and the Netball Parents' Association worked for 18 months on various fundraising events to heavily subsidise the tour so that the girls could have the best possible experience that the east coast of Australia has to offer.

The 2018 Netball Tour to Australia was intense, enjoyable and educational in equal measure. The girls who represented BGS Netball on the trip were an absolute credit and will have a bond throughout the 2018/9 season that couldn't have been created by anything other than the shared experience which the tour has given them.



Amsterdam

By Amelia Betts, Year 11

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.



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.



Year 7 Residential

The third week of our new school year saw pupils 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 giant swing which, judging by the screams heard, is 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 are 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

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.



World War I Battlefields

Historians touring the First World War Battlefields in October half term were privileged to have their own personal tour of Tyne Cot Cemetery, near Ypres in Belgium, from OB Matthew Cogan who is spending part of his gap year there 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.



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.



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!



Rotterdam Hockey tour

Bradford Grammar School U14 hockey teams, boys and girls, set sail 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 matches. Many pupils of the group coming away from the tour saying they have been inspired to push onto reach their next level back in Yorkshire. Well done to all involved.



2019 summer Hockey Tour

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

The girls who represented BGS Hockey on the trip were an absolute credit to the school and 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 4 to 3. However, the team played an outstanding game against Bergvliet High School after climbing Table Mountain only hours before showing true BGS resilience.

Thanks to the Hockey Parents' Association for their fundraising efforts that supported us on tour and Mrs Leach for accompanying us.



Year 12 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.



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Senior School and Sixth Form

Events and Visiting Speakers

Events and Visiting Speakers



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The school is so beautiful and the pupils are very lucky to learn in such an impressive environment.

Dr Zoe Williams
TV personality and medical expert

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.

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.’



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 and without judgement, during a talk at BGS.

Natasha Devon, who was awarded an MBE for her services to young people, told parents at BGS about the unique functions of the developing brain. She explained 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 the 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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Every young person should have access to mental health support.

Natasha Devon MBE

TV’s Dan Snow talks history

British historian and television broadcaster Dan Snow proved a big hit at BGS when he gave a talk entitled ‘On This Day in History.’

Dan delivered his talk to approximately 400 pupils and parents in the school’s great Price Hall. He offered a vivid, personal history of the world, showing how our past is full of fascinating turning points, from the signing of the Armistice treaty to Rosa Parks refusing to give up her bus seat in 1955, from the Ides of March to D-Day and the day Napoleon was attacked by hundreds of wild rabbits.

Jane Chapman, BGS Assistant Head (Pastoral), said: ‘Dan is a wonderfully engaging speaker. His enthusiasm for history is infectious and, as he dipped into his new book ‘On This Day in History’ and explained why he had selected particular moments in history. He had an entertaining story behind every selection, whatever date his audience gave him.

‘He made it clear to everyone in the audience just how much history matters. Bradford Grammar School was delighted to work with Ilkley Literature Festival to host this talk at our school.’

Open Science Lecture Series: From young to old, from rare to common

By E Anderson, Year 9

The focus of Old Bradfordian Dr Priestman’s lecture, in December 2018, was rare genetic diseases, specifically the role of Lysosomal in the brain. This is an incredibly complicated area of research encompassing both rare and more common diseases.

In the last 20 years, Dr Priestman has been interested in rare (and usually fatal) genetic diseases – most of them affecting young children or babies.

As scientists are not quite sure what causes brain cells to die in Parkinson’s disease, they have to find out before being able to treat it. If Parkinson’s has a correlation with lipids, it opens up new routes for scientists to find a cure – or at least understand it. This is important as there are therapies for Gaucher’s which could be useful for treatment of Parkinson’s disease. There is still work to be done, however there could be help – if not a cure – for Parkinson’s disease in the near future.

Open Science Lecture Series: The role of the Southern Ocean in regulating the climate

In April 2019, 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.



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Sporting Achievements



The Race Ace!

BGS pupil, Lorcan Hanafin, has had a meteoric rise in motorsport, having only started racing cars last year ...

Having raced in the Ginetta Junior Championships 2017-18, Lorcan achieved resounding success in a number of categories and found the transition from karting an exciting one, winning top 10 finishes and fastest laps.

He said: 'When I was five my dad bought me a go kart. I was driving around the house until I was eight and then he took me to a major kart track. I joined a scheme where we brought our own kart, entered into a team, and I raced there until I was 13. After this, I relished jumping into cars. It was all new, exciting and much more efficient.'

Lorcan has been racing in the Ginetta Junior Championships since June 2018. At the start, he and his team completed four test days and went straight into a championship round. 'I want to get into endurance racing which requires a lot of stamina and core strength, both vital for

racing. You complete two-hour stints of a 24-hour race, with one car between your teammates to get the best possible results. So I'm looking to build on these using the BGS Performance Gym and tailored coaching from sports staff for strength and conditioning.

Director of Sport, Oliver Rogers, said: 'We believe that if you lay the right foundations for sport, it creates stronger athletes. It's why it's important for our pupils to focus on developing key skills which are transferable, such as using the Performance Gym and experiencing a range of different sports. The right foundations provide solid grounding for longer sporting careers. We're very proud of Lorcan and we look forward to watching his motorsport career prosper.'

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We believe that if you lay the right foundations for sport, it creates stronger athletes.

Oliver Rogers
BGS Director of Sport



Swimming championships

Twelve students represented BGS at the annual John Parry Relay Championships. This is a historic event dating back 50 years, named in memory of the Master-in-Charge of Swimming at Barnard Castle.

The competition was created as a warm-up event for Northern HMC schools competing in the Bath Cup. Starting out with just four, BGS competed against nine other schools.

It was great to see each swimmer contribute more effort with each race. Every student handled the pressure placed on them with stoicism that yielded improvements not only for the team but for themselves.



Running club

The BGS Running Club participated in the English Schools Fell Running Championships at Giggleswick. The course was a tough challenge, with an ascent of 500 feet over rough terrain.

Our girls were very impressive, with Phoebe Midgley finishing runner up in the Year 7 girls' race, and in the Year 8 and 9 girls' race, the BGS team of Amelie Lane, Rebecca Flaherty and Emily Gibbins finished first, to be crowned English Schools Champions.



Prestigious training programme for our Hockey Coach

BGS Hockey Coach, David Birch, was 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 accepts 30 applicants per cohort including 20 from England, five from Wales and five from Scotland.

David said: 'My first workshop was at Lilleshaw National Sports Centre, where I worked alongside England National Age Group squads, who were 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.'

Eton tennis trip

In the summer term, 20 students from Year 8 to Year 12 travelled to London for four days to compete in the Independent School Tennis Association Cups.

School students from all over England looked to compete in some extremely hot days. With over 50 courts full of some of the best school boy and girl tennis in the country, it was a great experience to be part of.

The Year 8 boys and girls (Isaac Li, Kai Davies, Will Stevenson and Morgan Hainsworth) competed well in their matches and will be looking forward to gaining more experience before they return in Year 10. A young girls team from Year 9 (Grace Cogan and Amy Dixon) fought admirably against tough opposition in the U15 competition.

The senior boys (Alastair Christian, Tom Wilson, Matt Cogan and Eddie Irwin) side played in the tensest game of tennis I have witnessed for a long time. Both matches went right to the wire with honours even in the end. A tie break was needed and both teams raised the bars with the level of commitment. It was a real credit to be competing so well in high temperatures.

With a new and improved tennis programme we look forward to returning next summer (and future years) to take on the other schools again.

Team GB’s Emile makes an exciting return to Bradford Grammar

A talented athlete returns to BGS for a special training session.

Emile Cairess was fresh from competing with Team GB U23s in the European Cross Country Championships, in Tilburg, Holland. He had picked up a team silver medal and recovered well from a fall near the start of his race to move up 59 places and finish in 8th position.

Emile, who left BGS in 2016 to take up a place at St Mary’s College, London, to study Sport Science, recalled: ‘I got my first taste of competing at the Junior School when Mr Reddish entered me in a race. I came second and got the taste for it from then.

‘It’s been fantastic to come back to the school. BGS was very good in giving me a bursary and the teachers were always very understanding if I had competitions and needed to leave early. The school invested in me and I’m delighted to help them in any way I can.’



BGS wins Bradford Sports Award

A talented Cross Country team from Bradford Grammar School (BGS) is celebrating after winning Student Team of the Year in the Bradford Sports Awards.

The junior girls’ team, which includes Rebecca Flaherty, Martha Jackson, Amelie Lane, Phoebe Midgley, Elizabeth Gibbins and Eleanor Dawson, had done their school proud by taking a silver medal in the English Schools’ Cross Country Final. The girls are all in Years 7 and 8.

Lead Teacher for Cross Country, Mike McCartney, said: ‘The girls are amazing. They all give their absolute best – a display of true Yorkshire grit!’

It is approaching 20 years since Bradford Grammar went fully co-educational, so to have a girls’ team win a Bradford Sports Awards for the first time in the school’s history is a fantastic achievement.’



Cross Country success

Two teams made the journey to Ipswich for the English Schools’ Cross Country Final.

The Inter Girls team consisting of Grace Dawson, Emily Gibbins, Pippa Threlfall and Rose Midgley beat 10 other schools on the day, to finish as 17th best team in the country in their age group.

The junior girls’ team of Rebecca Flaherty, Martha Jackson, Amelie Lane, Phoebe Midgley, Lizzie Gibbins and Ellie Dawson fared even better, taking the silver medal position, behind Dr Challoner’s (Buckinghamshire) team that finished with one of the best scores in the competition’s history.

The junior race saw the girls place two in the top five, with Rebecca coming out on top on this occasion during her season-long tussle with Martha.

It is unprecedented for a whole team from this age group to achieve this amount of success. This is an amazing achievement and bodes well for the future of cross-country at BGS.

It is unprecedented for a whole team from this age group to achieve this amount of success. This is an amazing achievement and bodes well for the future of cross-country at BGS.

Table tennis triumphs

BGS hosted four days of competition with 65 students taking part in eight individual competitions, with 30 teams from five counties: West Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Staffordshire and Nottinghamshire.

Individually, pupils from BGS did rather well with four individual winners, two losing finalists and a number of students reaching the semi-finals.

Evie Davies upset the odds in the U13 girls in an exciting 5 set final, winning 11-8 in the fifth. Shishir Shastry was dominant in the U13 boys 3-0 in the final. Nick Miller scored 3-0 in the final. Aliza Khaliq defeated all six girls in the U16 group final with Pippa Threlfall finishing fourth. Joshua Poulsen had a very tight final against a much higher ranked player who has represented England. He fought from 2-0 down, saving match points in the fourth set, but lost 11-8 in the fifth.

Shishir, Evie, Aliza and Nick competed in the English Schools Table Tennis Association (ESTTA) individual finals in April 2019.



School swim stars championships

Two swimming stars from BGS, Jonathan Milner and Rebecca Clynes, have qualified for the British Swimming Championships.

Held in April each year, this is the premier event in the National Events calendar, and is used to help select swimmers for International and Junior International competitions during the summer. During Olympic years, it is the event used to select the Olympic Athletes.

Jonathan Milner qualified in eight Junior events. Where Jonathan really excelled was in the 400m Individual Medley (IM), where he has qualified in an Open age group.

Whilst qualifying in seven events, Rebecca Clynes qualified in an impressive four Open Age events, including the 50m and 100m Breaststroke, and the 200m and 400m IM.

Leah Schlosshan, who has recently been selected for the England Talent Phase One camps, came incredibly close to securing her place at her first British Championship competition. In the end Leah missed out by just 1.05 seconds in the 200m IM, and 1.60 seconds in the 400m IM; an amazing achievement for an athlete in their first eligible year for qualification.



Meet Georgina Jones, Head of Junior School PE and Sport

The wonderful things sport has taught me ...

As a child with a very sporty father, sport was not an activity but a way of life. I was surrounded by sport growing up and I'd either be in a rugby club or a cricket club. When I got older, it seemed natural for me to be drawn to netball and athletics but I also played everything, from hockey to volleyball.

Sport to me has been more than just learning about ball skills and the right footwork. Physically, I've enjoyed the health benefits of doing sport and emotionally I've gained resilience as I've

worked hard to become successful. I've loved being part of something bigger than myself and, socially, most of my friends have come from playing sport. When I moved around a lot, from Halifax, to Bedford, to the Midlands, sport was a lifesaver for me and introduced me to ready-made friendship groups.

One of the reasons I became a PE teacher was to pass on my love and passion for something which can benefit people for the rest of their lives. I think it's a big selling point we have here at Bradford Grammar School – we get our children to a level that they're comfortable with so they can go out and join clubs at university. We talk about performance, and we have a few children who can make it to a high level, but performance to me is about helping all pupils try and make sport integral to them.

I have so many former students getting in touch to let me know which club they've joined at university. I love hearing from them and knowing that they are making sport part of their lives and enjoying all the benefits from it I've enjoyed over the years.

I still love playing netball now (aside from having a longer recovery time!) and I still have a group of friends through netball. I have a busy life and it's something I do just for me. A lot of the girls I taught are starting to come back from university and I now play alongside one of them.

Aside from occasionally being introduced as 'this is my old PE teacher,' I know I've succeeded when I see the way former pupils are embracing a love of sport. Passing on my passion for sport, as it was passed on to me, is a great privilege. Watching the next generation experience the life enhancing merits of sport is a wonderful thing.

Sport

Athletics

By O Rogers, Director of Sport

The athletics season was hit hard by the wet weather.

As normal, the HMC athletics meeting was up first with an extremely early date. It was a chance for the known athletes to go and stretch their legs and all performed well. We held an exciting track and relay meeting at BGS with Woodhouse Grove, with the aim to get as many students representing as possible. So, early in the season it gave us a great opportunity to get the students out on the track to compete in a friendlier environment. The relays were all well competed. I am sure this is something we will be doing again next year. We entered four teams into the English School Athletics Association Track and Field Cup.

We had some great individual performances and the Inter Girls team qualified for the B final a few weeks later. The Bradford Athletics League was a bit of a wash out, with only one of the meetings taking place. The Junior Boys and Girls teams entered from Bradford scored large amounts of points which would have put them in the hunt for some silver wear. Throughout the very short season all competed to the best of their ability and I would just like to mention a few of the top performing athletes. Certainly, ones to look out for in the future.

Molly Barnesm, Olivia Benson, Sarah Bradley, Alex Flaherty, Rebecca Flaherty, Emily Gibbins, George Hahn, Joe Howson, Zarah Hussain, Martha Jackson, Amelia Craske, Amelie Lane, Pheobe Midgely, Beau Morrison, Anabel Petyt, George Williams, Yusuf Zahir.

Mr Morrison will be leading the Athletics programme next summer. With his experience and enthusiasm for developing young student athletes it is sure to be an excellent time to be involved. We wish him all the best as he starts his planning.

Cricket

XI

By S Kellett, Specialist Sports Coach (Cricket)

The first XI season proved to be difficult for several reasons, mainly wet weather and the availability of senior players.

The highlight was undoubtedly the first win over St Peter's for eight years, and the performances of some junior players who will only improve with the experience. We lost games, that with a little more experience, we should have won. Too many times batters got in but failed to turn good starts into match winning totals.

The bowling unit proved to be our strength, ably led by Year 13, Adam Horrocks, with excellent support from James Harrop and Ollie Sunderland. The young batters were well marshalled by Captain Sam Murphy and Vice-Captain Ajay Pularvarti. Will Luxton proved his worth with a brilliant hundred against the Old Bradfordians. We wish him well in his ambition to play professionally.

The future, I believe, is very bright with some outstanding young talent coming through the school, and in Lawrence Wade, we have a high-class all-rounder to build a team around.

Despite some losses, the spirit was always good, mainly down to our effervescent wicket keeper Luke Sandiford who kept the team morale high.

Three individual performances stand out in the season:

George Hahn took 6/17 on his debut, the brilliant third wicket partnership of Wade and Pularvarti to win the game against St Peters and Henry Smith, smashing 53 against Hymers when the side was in deep trouble.

In conclusion, we suffered with the building work hindering our winter preparation but with that pressure released, and the talent at our disposal, I predict an exciting future for the senior team it won't be for the lack of trying!

2nd X1

By S Kellett, Specialist Sports Coach (Cricket)

Although the second team season was decimated by other schools failing to fulfil fixtures and the wet weather, the games that were played resulted in some fine cricket.

The team had great wins against GSAL and QEGS with several players contributing to the victories. The senior squad suffered from the building work on the site which resulted in the sports hall being unavailable throughout the winter months. Exam pressure continues to impinge on most schools fielding a second team but having met with other cricket masters T20 on Saturday mornings and Friday nights should help boost the programme.

U14

By S Kellett, Specialist Sports Coach (Cricket)

The U14s enjoyed a very successful season winning most of their games with outstanding performances across the board.

Seamus Nazir proved a revelation opening the batting and was the team's highest scorer. Other players also made significant runs at crucial times. The bowling unit was very well disciplined and showed real skill also. Aravind Kumar had the stand out figures of the season with 6-9 against Woodhouse Grove.

Keepers Jacob Rees and Sam Bryan Gained confidence and consistency as the Season progressed with the number of byes reducing as the season rolled on.

Two players made first team debuts – Jonty Mighell and George Hahn – who almost single handedly bowled out the mighty St Peters to mastermind a fabulous victory.

I would expect both players to figure prominently next season in the First XI with other players from the squad pushing hard for selection.

A big thank you must go the parents for the continued support that they show to the boys in helping them enjoy the cricket season.

U13

By S Kellett, Specialist Sports Coach (Cricket)

Despite not having had the usual preparation in the winter nets due to the facilities re-build, the U13s prepared in the new net facilities at the start of the summer term, buiilding on the work they had done with Mr Wilde as U12s. Their positive approach and willingness allowed them to look towards the season with optimism.

The first match saw the U13s hosted by local rivals Woodhouse Grove, in what were far from summer conditions. Batting first, the boys found the going tough with most falling short of expectation and reaching what looked like a below par total. The bowling and fielding display, however, surpassed the batting performance. The boys bowled Grove out for a small total leading to a win and a good platform upon which to build.

From here, they went on to face GSAL where the weather was again inclement to say the least. Playing on through dark skies, wind and showers, their batsmen were resolute at the crease and set us a challenging total. The weather didn't improve for the second innings, and although there were positive periods with the bat, the run rate was always behind where it needed to be. The wickets steadily fell. Ultimately, our boys put up a fight but fell short by 32 runs.

A relatively easy win against an under strength QEGS, Wakefield saw BGS get back to winning ways and once again, they demonstrated strength in depth with the ball in hand. On this occasion, backed by a better batting display.

The next two weekends were lost to the weather which allowed more time in the nets. On the back of this, the boys travelled to Hymers and claimed their third win in the final game of the season with arguably their best all round performance.

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The positive approach
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towards the season with
optimism.

S Kellett
Specialist Sports Coach (Cricket)

Cross Country

By M McCartney, Lead teacher
for Cross Country

In short, this has been a remarkable season for the Cross Country Club: runners up in the English Schools Cup; a medal at the King Henry VIII Relays; and an individual winner in the North of England Championships. Additionally, many of our runners were awarded county honours, thus making it the most successful season for the Club in well over a decade.

We can start first by assessing the Club's success in what had been the season's target: the English Schools Cross Country Cup. This is a team competition (and according to the English Schools website, over 1,500 schools entered this year). To make the final, teams must qualify through local and regional rounds. We have never had a girls' team get to the final of the English Schools Cup, but this year we had two. On the day, the intermediate girls' team of Grace Dawson, Pippa Threlfall, Emily Gibbins, and Rose Midgley (after Amelia Craske also helped with the qualification rounds) beat ten other schools to finish a brilliant 17th overall. Next up were the junior girls' team. Rebecca Flaherty and Martha Jackson both finished inside the top five and were backed up by Amelie Lane and Phoebe Midgley to place second, only beaten on the day by a truly exceptional team that achieved one of the best points scores in the competition's history. Largely based on that performance, our junior girls (also including Lizzie Gibbins and Ellie Dawson) won the best student team award at the Bradford Sports Awards.

Not only were Rebecca, Martha, Amelie and Phoebe the first four BGS runners across the line in the English Schools Cross Country Cup Final, later on in the season, they competed as a team in a race that is essentially an unofficial schools relay championships, called the King Henry VIII Relays. This is held annually in Coventry in the West Midlands. It is a highly prestigious event and a list of previous participants reads like a who's who of British distance running, including the likes of double Olympic 1500m Champion Seb Coe, and our very own Brownlee brothers. What you must bear in mind here is that there are no separate age categories in this race. It is an open competition, and so two of the girls in the BGS team were competing against athletes who were as much as seven years older. After an outstanding team performance by BGS (including one of the fastest individual legs ever by Rebecca), one that in over twenty years of being involved with running at the school is the best team performance ever witnessed by the Master in Charge, the girls finished third.

In terms of individual successes, both Martha and Rebecca won their respective age groups in the West Yorkshire Schools Championships, and Martha came second in the Yorkshire Championships, finishing just ahead of Rebecca. But undoubtedly the best run of the entire season came from Martha in the Northern Counties at Pontefract race course, where in a very mature and controlled race, Martha pulled away from the field on the last hill to take the title, with Rebecca fading slightly to finish just outside the medals. In a round-up of county representation over the country, Martha and Rebecca were highly placed when representing Yorkshire in the U13 girls' race at the Inter Counties, and Rebecca also had a solid run in West Yorkshire colours at the English Schools Championships in the junior girls' race, where Amelie represented the county for the first time. It was also in this event that Grace proudly competed for West Yorkshire in the U15 girls' competition. Three of the Year 7 girls were selected for the English Schools Championships for their age group, which is now part of the Primary Schools Cross Country. Held annually at Prestwold Hall, in Loughborough, Martha (with another top 10 finish, in eighth), Phoebe and Lizzie all ran with distinction. But with six to score per team, and without the requisite back up, West Yorkshire only placed fifth.

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The Cross Country season was bookended this year
by great success on the fells and on the roads.

M McCartney
Lead teacher for Cross Country

It's fair to say that, overall, the performances by the girls overshadowed the boys somewhat this season. However, the boys were not without their successes. Alex Flaherty, Redford Holdsworth, Joseph Howson and Ben Grimmit did well to reach the semi finals of the English Schools Cup in the Intermediate Boys category, with Alex coming second in the Sheffield race. In fact, it's worth pausing to reflect on Alex's season. He has been the Club's best runner for several seasons but, by his own admission, was not at his best this year. That said, he still managed to achieve an eighth place finish in the Yorkshires, thereby gaining selection for the Inter Counties, and again represented West Yorkshire in the English Schools Championships. So, not bad for an 'off' year! Nevertheless, his new training programme looks to be paying dividends, and he should do even better in the forthcoming season. Finally, we come to Oliver Peace. While he has devoted more of his energies to Cyclo Cross this year, it is testament to his running ability that he still managed to finish the season as West Yorkshire Champion in the Junior Boys category, and thereby pick up another county vest.

The Cross Country season was bookended this year by great success on the fells and on the roads. Before the Cross Country season got underway, at the English Schools Fell Running Championships at Giggleswick, Phoebe won a silver medal in the Year 7 Girls competition, and in the Year 8 and 9 Girls, Amelie, Rebecca and Emily won the team race, to be crowned

English Schools Champions. Then after the season's close, Rebecca, Amelie, Martha and Alex were all chosen to represent Yorkshire in the London Mini Marathon, which also acts as the UK Road Race Championships and takes place over the last three miles of the London Marathon route. The best result was a 7th place finish by Martha (in an extremely impressive 17:49) in the U13 Girls race.

I'd like to use this opportunity to thank the other teachers in the Cross Country Club. First, to Dr Harris for her help with lunchtime training. Mr Alcock, also, for finding new and exciting routes over the quarry for our runners. Mrs Flaherty, not just for assisting with training sessions at lunchtime, but also with the logistics of getting us to races. And, last but not least, to the Head of Rowing, Mr Darnbrough, for his demon minibus driving. Without the help of these staff, much of the success the Club has achieved this year would not have been possible. Mention also must go to Emile Cairess, an Old Bradfordian who has gone on to gain GB selection in Cross Country. Emile very kindly gave up some of his time this season to provide some coaching, and his advice was greatly appreciated by our boys and girls. Furthermore, our thanks must go out to the many parents, and other relatives, who have provided so much support and encouragement at races this year.

Tennis – Boys

By B Crichton, Specialist Sports Coach (Tennis)

Boys' tennis enjoyed a fantastic season achieving an 86% win rate. LTA Team Tennis provided lots of thrills this year, with some really close matches going right to the wire. The U15s, comprised of Years 9 and 10, narrowly came second in their league. After dominant performances against Salendine Nook, Woodhouse Grove and Hipperholme, they encountered a very strong Crossley Heath team. After the six rubbers, the match was tied at 3 to 3, meaning a 10-point doubles shootout. After a nail-biting tiebreak, the boys just lost out 10 to 8.

In the U13s age group of Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) team tennis, the team was boosted by the arrival of some very strong Year 7s, Dominic Brierley and Reuben Hart, which gave us lots of options and good squad depth. The team managed to ease past Salendine Nook and GSAL, but came up against a very strong and competitive Woodhouse Grove team. Like the U15s after six rubbers, the match was tied 3 to 3 and went to a 10-point shootout. Will Baker and Tom Threlfall were given the task of getting the team over the line. The boys rose to the challenge and got the win for the team. A special mention to Tom who held his nerve and served superbly in a high-pressure situation. After winning the league, the boys went on to beat Ackworth 12 to 0 in their play off between West and East Yorkshire. The boys had one final go against Harrogate Grammar School to reach the regional championships and had the chance to represent the whole of Yorkshire.

The tournament at Yarm for the U12s and U13s was of a particularly high standard, with schools coming from all over the north to compete, giving the boys a chance to experience a better standard of player than usual. The U12s had a superb tournament, coming second to Woodhouse Grove. Particularly impressive was their team spirit. The boys in this age group all have a fantastic attitude toward working hard and working as a team, which I am looking forward to seeing develop even further over the next few years. The U13s, although coming sixth had a priceless learning experience, playing against multiple county level players, giving them something to aim for next year.

The tournament at St Peter's was also a fantastic day out with both the U13 and U15 boys. The team comprised of Years 7 to 10, which gave the boys a chance to mix with younger and older age groups. Before the tennis, it must be mentioned that the team spirit across the age groups was fantastic, with the older boys engaging with the younger ones very well, something that is at the heart of BGS core values. The tournament was very well organised and gave all players a fair chance. Some players who don't regularly represent the school had a chance to show what they'd got. The boys played some superb tennis in especially tough conditions due to the wind and rain. They excelled in the rain, happily sliding around the court and adjusting to the heavy balls very well. A highlight of the day was Will Baker's shot of the tournament. In terms of attitude and effort, special mentions go to Sebastian Dobson and Nate Holdsworth who stepped into the team for the first time and both gave their best effort in every match.

Closing out the year for boys' tennis was the Independent Schools Association Tournament (ISTA) at Eton College. This year, we took the U13s and U15s. Conditions were tough as it was 30 degrees and the days at Eton are long. The boys were placed in challenging groups but approached the matches with great attitude and gave their best efforts, managing to place 3rd out of six, putting them in good positions going to into the plate competitions. In the plate competition, only the group winners went through to the further stages and after the day's competition we had two third places, one second place, and one group winner. For me, as the new coach at the school, the Eton trip was a great experience and allowed me to gain an understanding of the general standard of tennis at independent schools, offering a good framework to develop our players for the future.

Tennis – Girls

By B Crichton, Specialist Sports Coach (Tennis)

Girls’ tennis had a good year, achieving a 60 percent win rate. Starting with the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) Team Tennis season, the U15 girls put in some fantastic performances, notably at Woodhouse Grove, where they beat them 12 to 0.

In the same fashion as the boys, the league decider came down to a match with Crossley Heath. The girls played some fantastic tennis and managed to take the match to 3 to 3 and a shootout. Unfortunately, we couldn’t quite get over the line, with one of Crossley Heaths star players controlling the match, proving just that bit too strong. In the U13s girls’ category, the league was very competitive.

The girls’ tournament at Yarm was an opportunity for our U13 girls to go up against some quality opponents with the likes of Yarm and Manchester Grammar, who fielded some very strong county players and national schools finalists.

This year at the Hymers Mixed doubles competition, there was a large field of teams from all over Yorkshire. We had pairs entered in the 12 and 14 age groups. In the U12s, Phoebe Midgley and Elizabeth Gibbins had their first taste of tournament tennis and both rose to the challenge. Partnered by Reuben Hart and Lucas Allerton they managed to achieve second and fifth. In the U14s, Olivia Benson and Hannah Gill represented the school, partnered by Will Stephenson and Abhinav Vadlamni. The pairs in this competition finished third and sixth.

Bringing an end to the tennis season for the girls was the trip to the Independent Schools Association Tennis Tournament. The girls faced tough competition in the form of national champions Queenswood in both groups. Although the girls lost the chance to be on the same court as top-class players, they are ready to improve their own games for next year. Throughout the weekend, the girls managed to pick up multiple wins during the plate competition and got to play in a mixed doubles tournament.

2018/2019 was a great success for the tennis teams, not only in a competitive sense but participation was very high. P.E and lunch clubs were very well attended throughout the summer. The 2019/20 year is looking like a strong year for both boys’ and girls’ tennis with our new facilities enabling players to play all year round and never getting rained off. The BGS Individual Tennis Programme will also be launching in 2019, which will give players a chance to improve their skills on an individual basis. This programme will help propel BGS to new heights and provide us with high quality players, ready for competition.

Hockey – Girls

Bradford Grammar School hockey has never been in such a good and promising position. Our numbers within the sport on the female side are constantly growing, and with boys only recently being introduced to the sport, numbers are increasing year by year through all abilities.

Our new Specialist Sports Coach, Mr Birch, has brought a breath of fresh air into the game by introducing new elements, such as the indoor programme for boys and girls, player pathway clinics, co-curricular morning sessions and lunch after school sessions for all ages and abilities.

It’s been a real achievement that despite the barriers to the season, BGS Hockey has grown significantly through numbers in participation, performance in national competitions and overall, love for the game.

U15

By D Birch, Specialist Sports Coach (Hockey)

U15 XI had a challenging year, again having the great opportunity to work with our Sports Graduate Mr Flatt, but it was by no means an unsuccessful one.

The girls played good hockey throughout the year and were unfortunate with the results. Yet they showed true BGS spirit by playing right till the end of every match. The impressive part of the season was that the groups’ performances improved week by week, which has set them up well for their final couple of seasons of BGS Hockey.

Two of our U15 XI, Amy Dixon and Grace Dawson, were involved in the indoor programme which improved their outdoor games thoroughly. Grace went on to be selected for Yorkshires England Hockey Performance Centre which has been the real pinnacle of Grace’s personal development throughout the season.

U15 XI Girls Awards

Players’ Player **Amy Dixon**

Most Improved **Lorna Nelson**

Coach Award **Sophie Evans**

U14

By R Camp, Specialist Sports Coach (Hockey)

Captain **Ana Campean**

Vice-Captain **Molly Barnes**

What a year for the U14 team! This squad are an outgoing and supportive group of girls that love hockey and excel in what they do.

Overall, the squad played 11 fixtures, winning ten and they drew one against GSAL. This team demonstrated strength in both defensive and attacking strategies, accumulating a massive 56 goals.

Progression from seven-a-side to eleven-a-side for the U14s was a challenge at the start of the season. However, the girls soon settled into their new found positions. A huge highlight for the girls was playing against rivals GSAL. In this fixture they showed true BGS grit and determination. Gibbins played outstanding in this game and her ability to distribute the ball was excellent. Barnes and Koral worked tirelessly in the centre as injured captain Campean supported on the side line. The last ten minutes of the game still saw BGS 1-0 down after numerous attempts. However, O’Connor made a break on the right-wing working with Bradley in the middle, O’Connor played the ball across the D to see Bradley put it away. A fantastic finish for the girls.

A well-deserved Players’ Player award was presented to one of the squad’s tireless defenders Elise Beavers. Most Improved was awarded to Ellie Koral for growing in confidence and her ability to read the game. Finally, Emily Gibbins received the Coaches’ Award for her determination and commitment to improve.

U14 Girls Awards

Players’ Player **Elise Beavers**

Most Improved **Ellie Koral**

Coaches Award **Emily Gibbins**

U13

By D Birch, Specialist Sports Coach (Hockey)

U13 XI had a fantastic year, from start to finish. They were given a new coach, Mr Flatt, who took them under his wing and got the girls to fall in love with the game even further.

The girls had some real highlights during the year, the stand out qualifying for their county round of the national competition to the regional final which was hosted by Barnard Castle. Whilst this was the end of the girls' competition, it was a real achievement for them to experience that next level.

U13 XI had Eleanor Dawson, India Burns, Rebecca Flaherty and Anna Buck all represent West Yorkshire Hockey.

Both U13 XI's have exciting seasons ahead of them with eleven-a-side hockey being introduced, indoor hockey added to their games and a tour to the hockey capital of the world, Holland. Again, an exciting age group to watch.

U13 XI Girls Awards

Players Player **Annabel Kelleher**

Most Improved **Olivia Town**

Most Improved **Anna Buck**

Coach Award **Eleanor Dawson**

Coach Award **India Burns**

U12

By D Birch, Specialist Sports Coach (Hockey)

BGS U12 XI hockey had an excellent first season at Senior School hockey.

Their season began at Rishworth in what proved to be a sign of things to come. From the first whistle, they proved to be superior in all areas of the pitch, working very hard on and off the ball. They were presented the challenge of training in the early hours of the morning for the first eight weeks of their season, due to our facilities' development. The girls' commitment did not fade throughout the season, with sessions being well attended throughout the cold winter mornings.

Our U12 XI had their first real test early in the season with a tournament at Barnard Castle on a lovely autumn Sunday. The girls began to show real unity in their play and really supported each other. They missed out on a cup final by a single goal but played brilliantly and ended up coming runners-up in the plate competition, which was played right down to the wire.

The boys also had a successful season playing in several fixtures and committing to their training sessions, which has set them up nicely for their hockey school careers.

Three of our U12 players, Bea Horsley, Megan Eldridge and Samantha Bowie went onto to play for their county in hockey for West Yorkshire, highlighting the real talent this year groups possess.

U12 XI Girls Awards

Players' Player **Megan Eldridge**

Most Improved **Kinza Khan**

Most Improved **Eva Shivitiel**

Coach Award **Bea Horsely**

Coach Award **Hema Narang**

South Africa Tour

By R Camp, Specialist Sports Coach (Hockey)

July 2019 saw the senior hockey players depart British shores for pre-season preparations in South Africa.

The tour was intense, enjoyable and educational in equal measure. They made friendships through shared experiences and were an absolute credit to the school.

The 15 girls from Year 11 and 12's first stop was the High Performance Centre in Johannesburg, for two training sessions and their first of five fixtures against Hatfield Christian School. Whilst in Johannesburg the tourists also visited the Lesedi Cultural village, Apartheid Museum and had a fun afternoon at Gold Reef City theme park.

From Johannesburg, the group travelled to Cape Town. A highlight the pupils won't forget was the opportunity to climb Table Mountain, a tough task but the girls were exhilarated once at the top looking down over Cape Town. This was followed by a fixture against Bergvliet High School on the same day which the team won 3-0, (Barnes, Barrett and Bellamy) an incredible achievement after a long day.

The girls also visited Cape Point and Boulders Beach. This was followed by a great day at the Aquila Game reserve where they got to see a whole range of African animals and an afternoon of zip lining through the mountains. One of the most memorable experiences must be the opportunity to interact with Langa Township kids where they taught hockey and donated equipment, a memorable experience for all.

Overall the tour was a huge success, gaining playing experience against tough opposition. I wish the squad the very best of luck for the 2019/20 season.

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Overall the tour was a huge success, gaining playing experience against tough opposition.

R Camp

Specialist Sports Coach (Hockey)

Hockey – Boys

By D Birch, Specialist Sports Coach (Hockey)

We had our U18 and U16 boys represent the school in the indoor national competition before Christmas.

Post-Christmas was when boy's hockey really kicked off, with the U13s being the only team to represent the school in the Independent Hockey School Cup. They bowed out graciously to QEGS in an end-to-end battle, finishing 4 to 2.

Block fixtures came thick and fast, a mixture of ability throughout the teams, with many boys picking up a stick for the very first time. Our U14's and U15's played many fixtures and competed well in all fixtures. A stand out game was the U14's away to Pocklington where the boys won 5 to 4.

A special mention must go to Will Ogden, now in Year 10, for being part of an England Hockey Performance Centre in Yorkshire and Ronan Massey, now in Year 9, representing West Yorkshire Hockey.

Boys' hockey is increasingly growing within BGS year-by-year. October 2019 saw the first boys' hockey tour to Rotterdam, Holland with Mr Birch and the girls' team, to participate in three fixtures vs Dutch opposition. This was an opportunity to experience a professional hockey environment.

We had many boys make their hockey debuts from U15s, many of whom had never picked up a stick before January. The boys went onto play four fixtures for BGS, competing well for the school.

Also a mention to Alexander Wade, who represented West Yorkshire for the boys during the season. Overall, this was a very promising year for U12 XI and will be a team to watch as they progress over the next couple of years.

Ronan and Tom represented West Yorkshire, and showed growth in their hockey throughout the year.

Rotterdam Hockey Tour 2019

By D Birch, Specialist Sports Coach (Hockey)

BGS U14 hockey teams, boys and girls, set sail for Rotterdam during October half-term for a five-night tour in Rotterdam, Holland. This was the groups 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.

Our tour contained three fixtures; one for each gender. The first one was against our hosts HC Rotterdam, in what was breath-taking facilities; containing seven pitches, three of which were water-based, along with their impressive rage in the cage for small unit play and juniors to play in during fixtures. There’s a real family feel to the club where everyone from far and near is welcomed with open arms and excellent hospitality.

Our girls competed well against HC Rotterdam, after a heavy first two quarters, the last quarters finished 2 to 1 in favour of the hosts. The boys had a phenomenal fixture but not in the manner you would expect for an U14 boys’ team. Rotterdam had fielded a much younger and less experienced side, BGS then decided to handover Mr Birch as a player to HC Rotterdam to help even the playing fields. The most pleasing part of this game was watching, listening and witnessing all players, staff and players who were spectating after their game make these young hockey players have a positive experience by cheering them on, celebrating their goals and helping to coach them throughout the game. The HC Rotterdam young Dutch hockey players said after the game ‘that was our favourite game of hockey ever because we got to practice our English whilst learning hockey’. Very well done to our students on having such a positive impact on these young hockey players experiences.

Our teams went onto their remaining fixtures against KHC Strawberries, where the girls fell to a defeat of 3 to 0 and the boys ran rampant to a 10 to 0 win. The remaining fixture was by far the best competitive fixture, and was a great way to finish the tour, with all 21 girls taking part in the final girls fixture winning 4 to 3 vs HC Splaam in what was a true squad effort, and the boys battling hard to a 2 to 2 draw, finishing the tour undefeated.

A very productive tour on and off the hockey pitch; friendships being made, team-mates being brought closer together, individuals growing away from home, developing and improving a team culture, improving athlete-coach relationships with staff. 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 & compete in competitive matches. Many pupils of the group coming away from the tour saying they have been inspired to push onto reach their next level back in Yorkshire. Well done to all involved.

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... friendships being made, team-mates being brought closer together, individuals growing away from home, developing and improving a team culture, improving athlete-coach relationships with staff.

D Birch
Specialist Sports Coach (Hockey)

Netball

U16

By O Rogers, Director of Sport

It was a successful season for the A team having seven wins and four losses. From the start to the end of the season, the girls worked hard and were dedicated to training. This was evident in the girls being unbeaten in the latter half of the season. With over 20 players across the two teams, it was a great squad effort.

The highlights of the season for the A team were, beating Woodhouse Grove 31-8 and a highly competitive game against Stonyhurst College 13-12 which could have gone either way, but went in our favour due to the girls’ sheer determination. For the B team, their highlight of the year was winning the Bradford Schools Tournament, with a great team spirit and work ethic, and beating Woodhouse Grove 35-1.

We are particularly proud of our season as it was so competitive – this is shown by the 171 points we achieved and ended up with a positive goal difference of four. It was a pleasure to have Lydia Walker as our coach, who was encouraging and supportive to all. We wish her all the best in the future. Our captains; Eva Lockett, Anna Cooper, Funmi Ogunde and Daisy Bathily were also great assets to the squads being great leaders.

We wish all the girls the best of luck for the season ahead, moving into seniors, I’m sure everyone will rise to the challenge!

1st VII

By O Rogers, Director of Sport

The seniors had a fair season with a good set of wins and close games. With a new coach and new ideas, it was going to take a little time to bed into the principles on the court.

Highlights of the season were the strong performances against Altrincham Grammar and the rematch vs The Grammar School at Leeds. A great finish to the season was beating Royal Grammar School, Newcastle by one goal – a fitting send off for the girls’ season.

Many thanks to Ava Hepworth-Wood and Georgia Rayner for leading the side so well across the season. We wish all the girls’ well for the next season in their new facilities. To the Year 13s, moving on to pastures new, we hope you continue to stay active. Come and visit us at some point to let us know how you are getting on.

2nd VII

By O Rogers, Director of Sport

The 2nd VII were a little light on fixtures this year, but still managed to produce some excellent results and performances. After a lot of hard work, development and team spirit, the girls finished the season strongly against Ashville, Hymer and RGS Newcastle.

Thank you so much to Issy Clarke and Amber McAllister for leading this squad throughout the season – you were both excellent role models.

Good luck to the Year 13s moving on. We wish you well and hopefully you will come back and visit us soon.

U15

By G Jones, Head of Junior School PE & Sport (Former teacher i/c U16 Netball)

Throughout this season I have had the pleasure of coaching the U15 girls and watching them develop. It is fair to say that there has rarely been a dull moment with this group who are lively, incredibly talented and dedicated to netball. They have consistently trained and played hard, whilst still maintaining a sense of fun.

Several of the squad have gained representative honours at both district and county level. Grace Cogan was named as County Satellite Player of the Season and Anuli Okeahialam was named County Academy Centre Court Player of the Season. The squad has also seen Zahra Hussain gain selection for Leeds Rhinos’ Performance Squad.

U15A

By G Jones, Head of Junior School PE & Sport (Former teacher i/c U16 Netball)

Captained by Grace Cogan, the A squad has had an incredibly successful season despite losing a key player from last years’ squad, emphasising the strength in depth which has developed. Emily Hartley took up a permanent position in the squad as a shooter, having played in the B squad the previous year and made the transition seamlessly, with her reliable shooting contributing strongly to the success of the team.

The biggest improvement for the squad, throughout the season, has been the development of their game intelligence; the ability to read a situation and make tactical decisions. Their willingness to take on board new ideas and work on them in training has given them the skills to implement strategies effectively. The only disappointment of the season was a narrow loss to St Bede’s in the cup early in the season, where naivety was the Achilles heel. I am confident that the girls have learned from this experience. The high point of the season was the performance against Hymers which, from a coach’s point of view, was the most complete performance of the season – against good opposition.

U15A

Summary of the season

| | |
|------------------------|-----|
| Played | 13 |
| Won | 9 |
| Drawn | 1 |
| Lost | 3 |
| Goals For | 302 |
| Goals Against | 194 |
| Goals Difference | 108 |

U15A Awards

Player of the Season **Grace Cogan**

Most Improved Player **Rebecca McCash**

U15B and C

By G Jones, Head of Junior School PE & Sport (Former teacher i/c U16 Netball)

Captained by Kate McNab, the B squad has welcomed new players Philippa and Aysha, who have proved to be assets to the squad. We also had the pleasure to introduce Alba from Spain to netball, whilst coming to the school for a term to experience the British education system.

As with the A squad, the Bs have equally worked hard to become a much more sophisticated team playing with intelligence as well as instinct. The game structure and improvement in individual skill level have contributed strongly to their success. With 15 players in this squad, the decision was made to enter a C team into the Bradford League in order for all the girls to experience court time. Most players, however, have played across both squads. Highlights of the season have come in the form of a runners-up position in the Bradford Schools’ District Tournament, where the B squad competed against A squads from other schools. They won all their games, with the exception of the final, against BBG Academy. A 30 to 8 victory over local rivals Woodhouse Grove can also be considered a feather in the cap of the B squad. The final performance of the season for the C squad was against Beckfoot School. The Cs had saved their best until last with a winning performance which highlighted all the improvements made throughout the year.

U15B

Summary of the season

| | |
|------------------------|-----|
| Played | 13 |
| Won | 6 |
| Drawn | 0 |
| Lost | 6 |
| Goals For | 235 |
| Goals Against | 194 |
| Goals Difference | 41 |

U15B Awards

Player of the Season **Philippa Halse**

Most Improved Player **Aysha Zaman**

U15C

Summary of the season

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Played | 5 |
| Won | 3 |
| Drawn | 0 |
| Lost | 2 |
| Goals For | 47 |
| Goals Against | 43 |
| Goals Difference | 4 |

U15C Awards

Player of the Season **Sana Khan**

Most Improved Player **Luli Fukawawa**

U15 Squad Players’ Player **Wlyat Butt**

U14

By O Rogers, Director of Sport

The U14 girls had a tough year fixture-wise, however they made some excellent progress over the season. New faces, forming different partnerships around the court made for a year of setting new foundations.

One for the highlights of the year was beating North Cestrian Grammar School in the national cup. All the girls showed exactly what was possible as they moved the ball up the court and finished each move with great precision. Following this up with a rare win at Cheadle Hulme is also good for team spirit.

The B team squad also worked hard throughout the season with some excellent performances against Parkside, Holy Family, RGS Newcastle and Ashville. The tight games are where the most learning took place and the squad will be ‘chomping at the bit’ to revisit those fixtures next year.

All the girls should be positive about the future and the work they have put in throughout the season.

Thank you to the captains of both squads Lucy Bingham, Aliza Arshad, Olivia Benson and Caitlin Ramage for leading the squad so well.

U13A

By R Miller, Specialist Sports Coach
(Netball)

The U13A team had a much-improved season, and possesses some of the hardest working and committed individuals I have witnessed.

They have really bonded and are extremely cohesive both on and off the court. They continually came up against tough opposition within the Saturday fixture programme and were fiercl ey competitive again Hymers’ College, Woodhouse Grove and Altrincham Grammar School for Girls’, where the girls narrowly lost. However, these exciting and resilient performances paid dividends when they were victorious against Westholme School, Stonyhurst, Ashville and RGS Newcastle. I am proud of all they have achieved this year and they have a very exciting future ahead.

U13A Awards

- Players’ Player **Rebecca Flaherty**
- Player of the Season **Isobel Hartop**
- Most Improved **Lucy Robertshaw-Wareing**

U13B

By R Miller, Specialist Sports Coach
(Netball)

The U13B team have had a stern challenge this season and have often found themselves competing against other A teams.

They have found themselves having to ‘re-gel’ as a team and that is tough with the opposition they came up against. In spite of results, they have competed really well and significantly improved improved as a result of competing against tough opposition. They faced a narrow loss to Cheadle Hulme and Woodhouse Grove, drew with Silcoates and in their best game of the season defeated RGS Newcastle, where they were putting into practice concepts that they had learnt throughout the year.

U13B Awards

- Players’ Player **Olivia Town**
- Most Improved **Abhinja Shenoy**

Senior Netball Tour Australia 2018

By G Jones, Head of Junior School PE & Sport (Former teacher i/c U16 Netball)

In July 2018, the BGS Netball Club took a senior pre-season overseas tour to Australia. The girls and the Netball Parents’ Association worked towards the tour for 18 months.

There were various fundraising events heavily subsidising the tour, so that the girls could have the best possible experience that the east coast of Australia has to offer. The touring party began pre-tour training in March, so when we stepped on the plane to Australia we felt ready for the challenge ahead.

The tour included the coast of Brisbane at Tangalooma Resort, Moreton Island, with a little team building, rest and recuperation from the flight. On the conservation island the group hand-fed dolphins, snorkelled and kayaked on day one, and experienced sand dune tobogganning on day two before heading back to the mainland. The opportunity to recover from the flight and enjoy activities as a group set the tone for the rest of the tour. The girls were bonding as a group and were prepared to throw themselves into anything which was presented to them.

On our arrival back on the mainland, the training and match play phase of the tour commenced. In Brisbane, the squads had one training session and played two fixtures against St Margaret’s High and Somerville High over three days. The fixtures were tough but competitive, and despite two losses the BGS girls were gaining an appreciation of the high status of women’s sport in Australia and the impact that this has on performance. This knowledge gave the girls increased motivation to create a culture of training hard and being ruthless on court. Additional highlights of our time in Brisbane were a leisurely tour of the beautiful city of Brisbane in the sun, and a photo opportunity at the stunning Mount Coot, as well as a walk through the Botanical Gardens.

From Brisbane, the touring party moved on to the Gold Coast. Here the group stayed at the Sports Super Centre (SSC), a purpose-built sports facility with an athlete village, where international squads go for training camps. The SSC was used in the recent Commonwealth Games to house the competitors. Staying here was a real highlight that contributed hugely to not just a netball but sporting experience. As well as using this as a base for two fixtures, the girls had training with the BGS coaches and a guest coaching session with Chanel Gomes, an Australian ex-international, and some of the younger academy Firebirds players.

Away from the court, the Australian experience was added to, with the girls partaking in a morning of surfing and beach volleyball at Surfers Paradise, a trip to Coombabah Lakes and Conservation Area to see kangaroos and koalas in the wild, and a day at Warner Bros Movieworld.

The two fixtures played on this leg of the tour were quite different. The first against All Saints Anglican College were both well matched games with the first team two goals away from the first victory. The second against a district representative club side gave us a real test but proved to be one of the most enjoyable court experiences of the tour with the BGS girls really rising to the occasion.

For the final leg of tour, the squads flew down south to Sydney, where we stayed in Sydney Central Youth Hostel, a great location to see the city. The challenging fixtures continued here, where again we pitted our wits against both a club team and a school team. We also received training from Sonia Mkloma and went to watch a premier league fixtures night at the Olympic Park. Again, the experiences reinforcing the status of netball as a sport in Australia.

As with the previous legs of tour the intensity of training and match play was mixed in Sydney with opportunities to enjoy the city and appreciate the surroundings. The girls visited Bondi Beach and did the stunning Coogee Coastal walk finishing with a meal at the Coogee Pavilion as well cruising around Sydney Harbour on a boat with a guide giving us the history of the magnificent place.

On the final day, the group finished off the tour with the day at Taronga Zoo. The evening included visiting the iconic Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb followed by a group meal and presentation.

The 2018 Netball Tour to Australia was intense, enjoyable and educational in equal measure. The girls who represented BGS Netball were an absolute credit and will have a bond throughout the 2018/9 season that couldn’t have been created by anything other than the shared experience which tour has given them.

I would like to thank both the Netball Parents’ Association and all the companies and businesses who took out adverts in the tour brochure and were personal sponsors for the girls, for contributing to a trip of a lifetime. This is one which I am sure will live long in the memories of both staff and students.

“The girls who represented BGS Netball were an absolute credit and will have a bond throughout the 2018/9 season that couldn’t have been created by anything other than the shared experience which tour has given them.

G Jones
Head of Junior School PE & Sport (Former teacher i/c U16 Netball)

Orienteering

By D Alcock, Orienteering Club teacher

The Orienteering Club had a resurgence in 2018/19. An influx of keen Year 7 pupils, along with some older pupils giving the sport a go for the first time, meant that we saw healthy numbers (up to a dozen) at lunchtime practice sessions, and we put in a good showing at the events that we attended.

The biggest school orienteering event of the year is the British Schools Championships, which were held this year in Witton Country Park, Blackburn, in November.

The BGS Year 7 boys’ team of Alistair Gomersall, James Woodham and Edwin van Lopik performed superbly to earn team bronze. Tom Threlfall secured the highest overall placing (10th) but he was posting split times to challenge the top spot at various points in the race. Evie Davies was our highest placed girl, reaching 14th in the Year 7 girls category.

Several members got some extra practice by representing the local club Airienteers at the regional inter-club championships, or at the British Championships over the spring term. In May 2019, we competed at the Yorkshire and Humberside Schools Orienteering Championships for the first time. At this event, held near Rotherham, Elizabeth Gibbins, Edwin van Lopik, James Woodham and Tom Threlfall took third place overall. The summer term also saw the annual World Orienteering Day event, at Lister Park, when over 200 Year 7 and Year 8 pupils tried to visit as many controls as possible in half an hour; three teams managed them all!

The summer holidays saw the school building host more than 200 orienteers from around the region and further afield for only the fourth ever indoor orienteering race in the UK. This version of the sport, which is becoming popular in the Scandinavian winters of Sweden, looks like it is catching on. BGS teacher Dr Livesey used local knowledge to come fourth out of over seventy competitors in the long race. We hope to repeat this event in the coming years and to see if pupils will manage to beat the teachers! Thank you to the Estates team for facilitating the running of this event.

We look forward to building on these successes in the years to come.

Rowing

By S Darnbrough, Specialist Sports Coach (Rowing)

The Boat Club had what can only be described as a frustrating year in 2018/19 due to a ‘perfect storm’ of circumstances. We said goodbye to Julia Markham with whom I enjoyed a very good coaching partnership.

Primarily however, the weather played a large part affecting both training and competitions with several Heads and Regattas also succumbing to the weather.

Secondly, illness and injury had an effect to an extent that I had not seen previously at BGS, with several key pupils missing most of the season which had a detrimental effect on our performances.

Thirdly, was the competition that we faced as standards are rising. However, all year groups have been training hard on the Ergometers and the gym. They thrive on the enjoyment that rowing provides.

There were many positives. There were excellent performances from both the boys and girls in Regattas and Heads, with many finals being lost by the narrowest of margins.

At the Vecht race in the Netherlands, we took a large group of 20 pupils for our annual four-day training camp in October. Impressively, the J15 double scull (Hawthorne/Burns) won the J16 category against Dutch competition and the J15 Quad scull finished second. The trip proved beneficial for all pupils with performances improving with every outing on the water.

The summer Regatta season again saw some good, if not frustrating racing, with the boys losing against club crews by the narrowest of margins. The highlight of the summer season was the emergence of a Year 7 girls’ squad who, after finally being able to row for the summer term, entered a quad at Durham and Bradford Regattas. Unfortunately, Durham succumbed to the weather, it being cancelled just as we drove through the school gates on our way up! However, at Bradford the girls, despite a lot of nerves, performed well losing narrowly to York city in their final. The season was saved in one of the final races at Bradford Regatta when Harry Burns won the J15 singles, our one win of the season.

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... the weather played a large part affecting both training, with the river Aire remaining high for large parts of the winter.

S Darnbrough
Specialist Sports Coach (Rowing)

Rugby

U15

By D Pullen, Teacher i/c U15 Rugby

The U15s had a very tough season, with a limited squad affected by numerous injuries to key players.

Much of the time coaching was focussed on developing the basic skills of the squad and helping to instil the right attitudes on and off the pitch. The loss of players to other schools over the previous few years had a serious result on morale, but an opening game against Ampleforth, where they were in with a chance of winning until the final whistle, gave them some early season confidence. Unfortunately, the rest of the results were not as close, and apart from the high scoring win against Birkdale, they were unable to trouble the win column.

Much can be taken from the season, however, with the squad staying together and working hard despite the results. A good team rapport developed, despite the losses, and a number of players stood up in very difficult situations, making a significant impact.

In the Forwards, no-one worked more tirelessly than Reuben Thandi, whilst Ryan Welch and Ranvir Narang became solid forces at prop and often made good contributions in open play. Keir Claxton stepped up to A team rugby as Hooker, due to absences, and always gave his best. Further back in the pack, Rahul Midgely and Max Trevett formed a solid second row partnership, and in the backrow, Nick Mehgen was a consistent asset to the team. Harun Muhammad was the star of the show, with his powerful running leading to him becoming top try scorer from number eight. Sufyan Khan supported regularly from the bench, and when at his best, made a number of impact performances with his strong running and great technical tackles. Hasan Sajad, Zachi Sadiq and Murad Patel also made numerous contributions to the squad.

In the backline, depth was an issue, with various injuries. However, when at full strength, Nathaniel Taylor, Joe Fitzpatrick, Jake O'Connor, Will Westlake, Ben Harrison and Ed Bolland gave a substantial threat. This was unfortunately rarely the situation with injury and unavailability! Mark Weatherhead also provided considerable pace on the wing, but he still needs to improve his basic skills and understanding of the game. Archie Horsfield covered almost every position on the field due to the injury list, but he made an outstanding impact when he himself was available, with his tenacious tackling and close support play. This was particularly evident when it came to the 7s season.

Hooker Lewis Bloodworth was another player to miss time through injury, but his limited contributions were substantial, with his team mates recognising this with their votes for Players' Player, mostly from the performances in the 7s squad.

In the New Year, the start of 7s helped the team remove the issue of squad depth. They started strongly in the opening tournament at Durham, beating the hosts and running local rival Woodhouse Grove very close. It provided a huge boost to confidence, but cancelled tournaments and further absences did not allow them to make the most from this.

2019-2020 is clearly a year for development for the U15s. There is talent within the squad and many players have come on in leaps and bounds. If they continue to stick together and avoid extensive absences, then they have the ability to improve the win column considerably in Year 11.

U14 XV

By M Wilde, Head of PE Outreach

This season a total of 20 games have been played at A and B team level, giving over 40 U14 boys the opportunity to represent this great school. The players have progressed both as teams and as individuals. The squad displayed genuine commitment and enthusiasm throughout the season. It has been a real pleasure to coach this group of boys.

The A XV looked to move the ball away from contact and avoid heavy collisions whenever possible. They started the season at home against Ampleforth College, in a game of contrasting styles. SHAC utilised their big, strong forward runners off nine whilst we looked to shift the ball away from the breakdown, to bring our midfield runners into the game. SHAC certainly had the upper-hand up front but BGS defended courageously around the fringes. When we managed to take the ball forward at pace, into space and provided adequate support, SHAC were put under pressure and we scored three good tries. A good competitive contest, honours even at full-time but after enjoying large periods with the ball, I suspect SHAC left BD9 slightly disappointed with the draw.

Next up was Crossley Heath; a fantastic contest, between two very evenly matched sides, which produced some super rugby for the supporters of both sides who had braved the morning's heavy showers. Improved support resulted in improved continuity for BGS, but too often we lost the ball by tucking it up an arm pit, and it was against the run of play that we led at half-time. In the second half, Crossley Heath enjoyed long periods with the ball, but the BGS defence was magnificent; good line speed and super tackle height forcing turnovers. However, fatigue eventually set in and Crossley Heath scored a deserved try in the left-hand corner after a driven lineout. We responded superbly after conceding and having regained our impressive defensive shape, we forced a turnover in Crossley Heath, half which led to a to a converted score 14- 5 FT; a great game which either team could have won. We were delivered a rugby lesson the following week versus Stonyhurst College. Completely outgunned and beaten by a better side on the day, it was a shame that the defensive heroics displayed against Crossley Heath were conspicuously absent. The game was effectively over as a contest after 15 minutes when the Stonyhurst inside centre scored his third try of the game. The team responded well to the challenges set at half time and made Stonyhurst work much harder for the three second-half tries that they scored.

The game versus Hymers College was very much a game of two halves; a first half to forget and a second half to savour. For the second week running, the boys had a shocking first 15 minutes which gave Hymers a flying start, but fortunately BGS began to gain a foot hold in the game. Despite being two points down at half time, I was confident that if the boys responded positively to my challenges, they would produce an improved second half performance and consequently turn the result around. Higher work rates and improved BGS support increased the tempo of the game dramatically. A great second half, producing five tries resulted in a first emphatic victory over Hymers for these boys since joining the school. A straight forward victory was secured the week after against Birkdale. I was delighted that I was able to give several players their A XV debut in the absence of a B XV game on that day, and competition for places was increasing before our last game of the half term vs GSAL. I felt the final score line flattered GSAL, who used their big forwards coming off nine and found success with their approach. BGS scored the game's best two tries, playing into the wider channels, and should have converted more opportunities but were frustrated by GSAL's ability to slow down possession. This was a good competitive

game won by the bigger, more physical side. Post half term, comfortable victories were secured over Pocklington and Giggleswick before we faced QEGS Wakefield, which was, without doubt, the toughest physical challenge the boys had faced thus far. A titanic defensive effort kept the score to 0 to 10 at half time. With better execution and confidence, we could even have scored a couple ourselves. That said the well organised and aggressive QEGS defence really tested the BGS players in possession, so mistakes were inevitable. I was delighted with our second half try; scored after super support by Jonty Mighell after great work from Will Ogden. In such intense games, teams need individuals to relish the physical challenge and, in that respect; Morgan Hainsworth, George Hahn and Will Ogden were outstanding. The boys bounced back well the week after with a win in a free-flowing game against Ashville College. Both teams attempted to move the ball away from the contact area and into the wider channels. A great opportunity to play under lights at Bradford Salem was somewhat dampened, literally, by atrocious weather conditions on the night. PHGSO arrived having already beaten STP York & Sedbergh so the game was always going to be a tough challenge. I was delighted with the effort from the lads to maintain possession for multiple phases, but under such huge pressure from a very organised and physical PHGSO defence, getting over the gain line proved extremely challenging. The XV aside season concluded on a high by completing the double over a much improved Hymers College side.

After Christmas, our focus switched to the abridged version of the game. In preparation for the National Schools’ Competition at Rosslyn Park, we played several tournaments – the highlight of which was winning the bowl competition, in bizarre circumstances, at Mount St. Mary’s College. At Rosslyn Park, the boys did extremely well to qualify out of their group but lost to a large, physical Stockport Grammar School in the knockout game. The bowl group games the following day could have gone either way, but the volume of games over the course of the two days had taken their toll.

At the end of the season my thanks go to: Mr. O. W. Theaker, in his role as B XV coach. Mr. D. G. Scarbrough for supporting the squad at RPNS, the Estates team for the provision of the excellent playing facilities we enjoy at BGS, the dedicated band of parents who support both teams and the rugby club so loyally, and of course, all the boys, too numerous to mention individually here, who work so hard and give up so much time in representing this great school. I wish them all well for the future and record my heartfelt thanks for such an enjoyable season!

| Player | App. | Tries | Total |
|----------------------|------|-------|-------|
| Muhammad, Harun | 14 | 8 | 40 |
| Narang, Ranvir | 14 | 2 | 10 |
| Trevett, Max | 14 | 2 | 10 |
| Westlake, William | 10 | 2 | 10 |
| Fitzpatrick, Joe | 9 | 2 | 10 |
| Thandi, Reuben | 14 | 1 | 5 |
| Weatherhead, Mark | 14 | 1 | 5 |
| Bolland, Edward | 12 | 1 | 5 |
| Harrison, Ben | 11 | 1 | 5 |
| Bloodworth, Lewis | 6 | 1 | 5 |
| Sadiq, Zachi | 8 | 1 | 5 |
| Khan, Sufyan | 13 | 0 | 0 |
| Mehrgan, Nick | 13 | 0 | 0 |
| Patchimalla, Shreyas | 11 | 0 | 0 |
| Welsh, Ryan | 13 | 0 | 0 |
| Midgley, Rahul | 12 | 0 | 0 |
| O'Connor, Jacob | 12 | 0 | 0 |
| Horsfield, Archie | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Patel, Murad | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Claxton, Keir | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| Sajad, Hassan | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| Malik, Armaan | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Rohann, Mohammed | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Taylor, Nathaniel | 6 | 0 | 0 |

| Results | Record | | | |
|----------------------|--------|----------------|-----|------|
| BGS | 5 | Ampleforth | 12 | 0-1 |
| BGS | 0 | Crossley Heath | 35 | 0-2 |
| BGS | 5 | Stonyhurst | 53 | 0-3 |
| Hymers | 36 | BGS | 5 | 0-4 |
| St John Fisher (cup) | 52 | BGS | 5 | 0-5 |
| BGS | 40 | Birkdale | 35 | 1-5 |
| GSAL | 55 | BGS | 5 | 1-6 |
| Pocklington | 17 | BGS | 15 | 1-7 |
| QE (cup) | 26 | BGS | 5 | 1-8 |
| Giggleswick | 40 | BGS | 10 | 1-9 |
| BGS | 10 | QEGS | 44 | 1-10 |
| Ashville | 29 | BGS | 0 | 1-11 |
| BGS | 0 | PHGS | 7 | 1-12 |
| BGS | 5 | Hymers | 35 | 1-13 |
| POINTS FOR | 110 | POINTS AGAINST | 476 | |

U12

By O Rogers, Director of Sport

The U12 rugby team started the season with a mix of abilities and experiences.

It was challenging at times, however, every student stepped up to the plate to make their mark on the squad. The development across the season has been fantastic and this was shown in their understanding and application of skills during the fixtures. The team worked hard on developing the basics, through the principles of the game to build solid foundations to move forward. Tough fixtures at the beginning of the season meant that the teams were put under extreme pressure. Fighting for the ball at every opportunity became the norm. Tackle techniques improved along the way with handling skills to help the game flow.

Good performances against Pocklington, Giggleswick and Ashville gave the group a lot of confidence to help the students persevere in other games. Against GSAL the boys put in an extremely brave and determined first half performance. Scoring first and only allowing them to score twice, the defence was immense against a very strong and powerful team.

Playing Hymers twice meant we could get a good yard stick of where the boys had finished the season. The first game gave us a lot of things to improve on through training and valuable game experience. The second was a different story. The boys showed composure, skills and shape with intent to showcase exacting how far they had come in a short space of time.

The sevens season gave further opportunities for the boys to develop and hone their skill set under different game pressures. The squad took part in a number of competitions, however, the final one showed exactly how far they had come through the season. In games where they had not been able to compete, through lack of experience, they were either winning or drawing the fixtures. Notably against QEGS, Hymers and an exciting win against Woodhouse Grove.

I would like to thank the whole squad for their effort and enthusiasm over the season. They have ‘stuck to their guns’ and developed their skills. When times were tough, they came back wanting more. There is an excellent good group of boys here that will continue to make great strides, which should be exciting for the future. I would especially like to thank Arul Midgely for captaining the side and leading by example in the contact area.

Arul Midgely picked up the Players’ Player award voted by his peers. Alex Wade and Alfie Sanderson were awarded the Coaches Award for the season. Lucas Allerton and Saman Shirazi Nejad Fard were awarded the Most Improved Award.

We finished the season with a trip to Elms School for the weekend. The boys played a couple of round robin games against local schools. Elms School is very different to BGS. I am sure the boys will never forget the pig boarding!

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It was challenging at times, however, every student stepped up to the plate to make their mark on the squad.

O Rogers
Director of Sport

Swimming and Water polo

By C Robinson, Specialist Sports Coach (Swimming)

English Schools' Swimming Association (ESSA) Swimming Divisional

John Parry Relays

In their first big challenge of the year, 12 students represented BGS at the John Parry Relays, which were, for 2018, held at St. Peter's, York. There were three teams: senior boys (Matthew Cogan, Finlay Mears-Young, Jonathan Milner and Tom Stenhouse), junior girls (Isabel Beaty, Philippa Halse, Grace Cogan and Leah Schlosshan) and junior boys (Boris Gavrilov, Oscar Hobson, Joseph Rogers and Hugo Stonelake).

The Junior Boys valiantly competed against more experienced rival players, all improving performances in their 'B' Finals. The Senior Boys were engaged in the fiercest battles of the day, being touched in to second twice in both of the 'A' Finals for 4x50m Freestyle and 4x50m Medley Relay. The Junior Girls were a triumphant tour de force throughout; touched out in the 4x50m Medley, they were hungry for blood by the 4x50m Freestyle, and they walked away crowned champions for 2018.

Shortly after the John Parry Relays, nine U18 Senior Boys (Miles Barton, Matthew Cogan, Oliver Marshall, Finlay Mears-Young, Millen Olak, Mayukh Sen, Tom Stenhouse, Tom Stevenson and Freddie Stonelake) journeyed to the Manchester Commonwealth Pool for Round One of the ESSA Water polo. In four games against incredibly skilled opposition, the team came away with one win. Tactical awareness grew with each match scoring six between the last two games.

Boys and Girls teams were at full strength and spirits for the trip to Whitgift School and the London Olympic Pool for the 2019 Bath Cup and Otter Medley Challenges last March, which was just as well, following a three-hour logistical set-back en-route that forced us to miss the Whitgift leg of the tour.

However, the team were inspired by the Olympic surroundings and produced some fantastic lifetime best performances. A close-knit team of experienced senior boys swam hard for each other, whilst a young girls' team (comprising of one Year 9 pupil, three Year 10, and one Year 11 pupil) showed class against older opposition.

In the girls' 4x50m Freestyle Relay, Philippa Halse, Leah Schlosshan, Rebecca Clynes and Isabel Beaty finished fifteenth overall, a mere 1.13 seconds from qualifying for the final. Their strength, however, lay in the 4x50m Medley. Isabel Beaty, Rebecca Clynes, Leah Schlosshan and Grace Cogan broke in to a final amongst schools of significantly greater numbers, finishing tenth but bettering their performance from the heats, demonstrating commendable determination and desire to compete.

Competing for the namesake trophy, the Bath Cup, Matthew Cogan, Tom Stenhouse, Jonathan Milner and Finlay Mears-Young were in action in the 4x100m Freestyle relay. They finished 33rd against a stacked field. Much like the girls, the boys strength lay in the 4x50m Medley Relay. Matthew Cogan, Tom Stenhouse, Jonathan Milner and Freddie Stonelake came 20th, but were just three seconds short of a place in the final, which highlighted the quality of the competition.

The hardships suffered whilst travelling brought the team together and made it a great trip for all.

The Grammar School at Leeds (GSAL) in January 2019

A cluster of swimming fixtures kicked off in January with a visit to The Grammar School at Leeds. It was always going to be a tough slog against a team fielding swimmers with experienced swimming backgrounds. GSAL triumphed but not without some stiff competition from the U13 and U15 girls.

(U13 Girls - Eleanor Dawson, Torey Gavrilov, Martha Jackson, Simran McCormack, Tia Merckx, Sophie Temple), (U13 Boys - Ginika Ene, Oscar Hobson, Ed van Lopik, William Palmer, Saman Shirazi), (U15 Girls - Isabel Beaty, Grace Cogan, Philippa Halse), (U15 Boys - Harry Palmer, Joseph Rogers, Joe Stenhouse, Niall Turner), (U18 Boys - Matt Cogan, Finn Mears-Young, Tom Stenhouse, Freddie Stonelake), (U18 Girls - Jaya Krishna, Eve Wellings).

In March, BGS travelled to local rivals Woodhouse Grove (WHG). The team battled to make an impression on their hosts but were reluctantly beaten 209 points to 165. The return leg at BGS however, was a different story. WHG had 'beefed their team up' with additional experience to neutralise the improved performances from BGS. Whilst the boys' teams were in excellent form, and the Intermediate (U15) girls repeated their thrashing of the WHG Intermediate girls (47 points to 29), it was the junior (U13) Girls who provided the biggest shock. They were undone 43 to 33 at Woodhouse, but with six wins from six and no last places, scoring 49 to 27, it was a clear they had not only improved but possessed the fighting spirit that you need on the day. 'Every point matters.'

Much like WHG, the performance of the Intermediate Girls at GSAL, had shocked GSAL in to draughting additional experienced swimmers to the return leg at BGS. Alas, the U15s were unable to hold their ground in an epically close battle, whilst the Junior girls riding confidence from their bout with WHG, were able to make GSAL sweat in this age group, losing out by just four points. In a final blaze of glory and undiminished spirit, Matt Cogan and Fin Mears-Young's led the team and closed the gap on their rivals, handing over captaincy to Tom Stenhouse.

At the Bath Cup, independent schools were categorised as big or small based on their pupil numbers. BGS makes it in to the big leagues with one of the lowest populations! Yet when it comes to aquatics, BGS continues to be a sleeping giant, awaiting its opportunity to grow and show its stature.

My thanks go to our Senior Boys for holding the fort, the Intermediate Girls for their continued commitment. Lydia Walker (Netball Graduate) for accompanying the team to London, and in particular Nick Honey (Swimming Graduate) for his support in training and competing throughout the year.

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The hardships suffered whilst travelling brought the team together and made it a great trip for all.

C Robinson
Specialist Sports Coach (Swimming)

Table Tennis

By A Crabtree, Table Tennis Teacher

BGS' Table Tennis Club had an excellent season. The U19 boys' team reached the English Schools' Table Tennis (ESTTA) final finishing fourth. Three school teams reached the regional finals with all seven teams winning the West Yorkshire Team competition and reaching the ESTTA Zone Finals, held at BGS in January 2019.

Individually, Nicholas Miller, Aliza Khaliq, Shishir Shastry and Evie Davies were West Yorkshire Champions with Nicholas achieving the Yorkshire Table Tennis Association U15 Player of the Year.

The ESTTA Team Championships started in November 2018 where all seven of the school teams managed to win West Yorkshire Competitions. The U11 boys defeated Lady Lane, Ackworth and Eldwick in a good competition in the school's senior gym. The U19 boys' competition was very close – a BGS team of Josh Poulsen James Bowmer Karam Butt and Tom Padgett drew with Beckfoot but defeated GSAL in a very close competition as Beckfoot and GSAL also drew.

The U16 boys also had a tight competition defeating Beckfoot but drawing 4 to 4 with Ackworth. Nicholas Miller, Innes McFadzean, Rayhan Khan and Will Stephenson just won on points to knock last year's U16 champions out in the first round.

In the U13 boys team, two BGS teams played excellent table tennis to defeat Beckfoot and Brooksbank. The A team defeated the B team to win the competition.

The U13 and U16 girls' teams both defeated Beckfoot in close matches.

BGS hosted the Zone Finals in January against strong opposition from South Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Staffordshire and Nottinghamshire over two days. On the Saturday, the U19 boys' team qualified drawing the final to Carlton Le Willows but losing on set count to qualify for the regional final in Blackburn. The boys' U16 team had tough opposition and finished fifth, but the girls U16 also qualified for Blackburn. On Sunday, the younger teams competed well, the U13 girls' teams won both matches 5 to 3 with only three players' matches to qualify for the regional finals in Grantham. Evie Davies and Evie Shaw won all their matches and they were ably supported by Sara Rose Basit who won two matches.

The U13 boys, U11 girls and boys all finished fourth against quality opposition.

In Blackburn, the boys U19 team played excellent table tennis to defeat Uppingham School 5 to 3 but drew 4 to 4 against Altrincham Grammar. However, extra sets in defeats for Karam Butt took BGS to the national finals 17 to 15. In the U16 girls competition, BGS had a very close game with Sir John Nettlethorpe School drawing 4 to 4, but winning 14 to 13 on set count. All four girls Aliza Khaliq, Emily Mellor, Pippa Threlfall and Basmah Razi contributed to the victory. In the final, they played Ruskin Priory School losing 7 to 1. However, second in the region places the girls in the top eight nationally.

On Sunday, the U13 girls went to Grantham for their regional final. The girls competed well losing 5 to 3 to Wade Deacon, 6 to 2 to Market Bosworth and 5 to 3 to St John Fisher. Evie Davies played great table tennis winning four matches, but she was supported well by Evie Shaw, Sara Rose Basit and Harpreet Kaur playing her first ever matches for school.

Reaching the ESTTA Team final was a great achievement for the U19 team of Nicholas Miller, Josh Poulsen, James Bowmer and Karam Butt. All four boys started playing table tennis in Clock House and have been committed to school table tennis for 30 years between them. It is the first time BGS have had a boys team in the finals since 2003.

The boys played great table tennis but came up against excellent competition losing 5 to 3 to Ernest Bevin College, 6 to 2 to Whitgift and 8-0 to Grantham College, a table tennis academy with all four players highly ranked nationally.

We had four winners at the West Yorkshire Schools' individual held at BGS in January. Nicholas Miller and Aliza Khaliq were under 16 winners, Shishir Shastry and Evie Davies U13 winners. Josh Poulsen (U19) and Evie Shaw (U11) were runners up in their events.

I am grateful to the support of Chris Finch and Daniel Gustafsson at lunchtimes and the caretaking staff and school parents for their support at the Zone Finals in January.





As you have read, BGS creates opportunities for all, encouraging pupils to embrace new challenges with zeal, support each other's happiness and show great character in the pursuit of their goals.





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