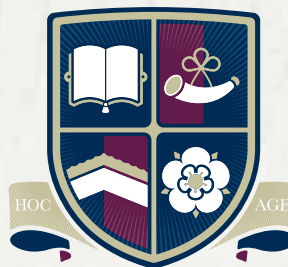


SPRING
2020

CHALLENGE 03-07
ARTS 08-09
COMMUNITY 10-12
JUNIORS 13-18
LIFE 19-20



Bradford
Grammar
School

Mac Age

Feature



'Little Shop of Horrors'

CONTINUED ON PAGE 03

Our fantastic musical production, 'Little Shop of Horrors', ran over four thrilling performances in early February ...



Welcome from the Headmaster

At the time of writing it's Friday, the school day has just finished ...

... I've said goodbye to our students as they filed out for the weekend, and writing these words provides an opportunity for a brew and brief reflection.

In recent weeks, we have celebrated winning the Bradford University Mock Trial competition, were entertained brilliantly by 'Little Shop of Horrors', saw the Aunty Knife app come to fruition following our partnership with local schools, picked up a national TES award for our collective efforts to foster wellbeing, applauded BGS West Yorkshire table tennis champions, relaxed to fantastic performances at our recitals, danced a little too enthusiastically (or was it just me?) to the Young Voices Choir in a Junior School Assembly, and marvelled at the achievements of the intermediate

girls who returned as champions from the King Henry VIII Cross Country Relays (we are only the second school to have won both the boys' and girls' races in this historic competition).

Meanwhile, lessons have been taught, homework handed in and mock exams navigated by Year 11 and Year 13. The wheels at BGS never stop turning and numbers of 11+ applicants, sitting for a place and attending taster days, are once again up on the previous year. We don't claim to be perfect, but there is an amazing amount of activity and achievement going on at BGS, and an abundance of opportunity for those with the ambition to seize it.



As we're about to go to press, fast-moving events surrounding COVID-19 have led to a time of uncertainty. However, as always, we will continue to respond in a measured way to any challenges we face and, as you can see from this edition of 'Hoc Age', show all the wonderful things which continue to go on in our amazing school – and outside of it.

I hope you enjoy this latest edition of 'Hoc Age' and the insight it provides into a caring and successful school.

Simon Hinchliffe

Dr Simon Hinchliffe
LATEST BLOG ...
bradfordgrammar.com/simonsblog



Note: all events may be subject to change

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“...”
Audiences were delighted by such a feel-good show ...

Over fifty students from Year 7 through to Sixth Form were involved in the production, as performers, musicians or technicians. Preparations began in early October and the hard work and dedication of all those involved really paid off.

'Little Shop of Horrors', by Howard Ashman and Alan Menken, first opened as a Broadway musical in 1982 and enjoyed critical acclaim. Set in downtown New York in the early 1960s, it follows Seymour, a meek and dejected shop assistant, who works in a failing florists. He has a crush on his fellow shop worker, Audrey, but she is going out with a sadistic dentist. Meanwhile, he has bought a strange plant, which he hopes might be the answer to all his problems.

Freddie Butterfield played the lead role, Seymour, and brought an impressive level of talent and professionalism to every performance. Evie Clarke played Audrey and managed to convey sweetness and vulnerability (not least, through her crystal-clear soprano voice), as well as comedic qualities, which made her a joy to watch. Mushnik, the shop owner, played by Will Craske, had audiences in stitches with his unique blend of dad dancing and self-serving transparency. Audience members were quite rightly disturbed by Millen Olak's interpretation of the nasty dentist but it was the 'strange and

interesting plant' that stole the show: expertly operated by Seb Handley and voiced and sung by Tom Howson, it was great fun to watch the plant come to life and take over the auditorium!

Congratulations must also go to Elizabeth White and the band who gave us a musical treat and a special mention to the close harmony trio – Condoleezza Faboro Davidson, Jasmine Madeley and Alicia Pollard who really showcased their singing talent.

Huge credit goes to Pete Dutton, Zaheer Anwar and all the backstage crew who worked tirelessly to create a truly magical set through stunning lighting, detailed props and special effects.

Ultimately, it was a real team effort and made us all proud to be part of BGS.



Bebras Challenge finalist

Talented student Alex Davies was invited to the Department of Computer Science at the University of Oxford in February as a finalist in a UK-wide competition – The UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge.



Reaching the final of the Seniors (14-16) age group was an impressive achievement, as 22,722 students entered the first round for this age group. Alex scored full marks in the first round and was among the top 56 highest achieving students in the country invited to the final round in his age group. He was presented with his finalist's certificate at a prize-giving ceremony by Peter Millican, Professor of Philosophy at Hertford College.

questions inspired by topics in computer science. In the first round, students had to try to solve as many problems as possible in an allotted time. There were six age categories. The highest scoring students from the four oldest age groups (Elite, Seniors, Intermediate, and Juniors) were then invited to the Department of Computer Science at Oxford, for the finals over two weekends in January and February.

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CAPTIONS
1 Alex Davies, presented with his finalist's certificate by Peter Millican, Professor of Philosophy at Hertford College.

Hoc Age

02 / 03

Challenge

APRIL

1 to 6 April
GCSE German Study Visit to Cologne
2 to 5 April
Year 12 and Year 13 Krakow Trip
4 to 8 April
Château de la Baudonnière Residential
26 April
BGS Golf Day
30 April to 2 May
Silver DofE Expedition

MAY

6 May
Open Science Lecture
7 May
Open Morning
13 May
Leavers' Lunch
15 to 18 May
Year 9 Bronze DofE Assessed Expedition

JUNE

8 June
A Level Biology Trip to Ainsdale Sands
15 June
Higher Education Day
18 to 22 June
Year 12 Gold DofE Assessed Expedition
19 to 21 June
Year 10 Silver DofE Assessed Expedition
26 June
Speech Day
30 June
Summer Concert



Girls' team historic cross country win!

A team of four girls recently won the King Henry VIII Cross Country Relays, after being placed third last year. This highly prestigious competition, which takes place annually in Coventry, acts as an unofficial British schools' championship.

“...”
Competitors acted as barristers in fictitious criminal cases ...

Bradford University Mock Trial

To mark the opening of Bradford University's Lady Hale Mock Trial Court, named in honour of the former president of the Supreme Court, the university organised a mock trial competition for local schools.

Competitors acted as barristers in fictitious criminal cases, with the setting of the new court room providing a realistic backdrop.

BGS's team, made up of Anna McCormack, Beth Norton, and Shaan Aziz, attended a session on advocacy skills and the Theft Act, before successfully defending Steve McDonald against a charge of theft in the heats, and winning the final by securing an acquittal for Thor Hamer, a football player charged with assault on the pitch. The students were delighted to be invited to the official opening of the court, where Lady Hale herself presented them with the trophy.

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First Lego League Competition

Since September, pupils have been designing, building and programming Lego Mindstorms robots to enter the First Lego League; an international STEM competition run by the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET). This year, the challenge was called 'City Shaper' which centred around architecture and the spaces we live in.

The competition is designed for teams of young people, to encourage an interest in real-world themes and develop key skills that are crucial for their future careers. There are three parts to the competition: the robot game; innovation project; and core values. The pupils have previously won awards for the project and the core values section but winning the robot game has proven elusive.

Mrs Harvey (Head of Computer Science) and Mr Cottrell took two teams to the University of Bradford for the regional tournament in December. There were a lot of schools from the region there and some strong competition. The older team included two Year 11 pupils, Alex Davies and Haaris Aslam, who were competing for the last time this year, as next year they will be too old.

“...”
... winning the robot game has proven elusive.

Their robot had two attempts to score as many points as possible from the challenges, which included carrying bricks out to circular enclosures and moving levers to release cranes. Their first attempt was disappointing, scoring only 85 points, but they did not give up and set about making improvements. In the final round, they scored a flawless 305 points, with the second-place team way behind on 205 points, winning them the robot game.

The new Year 7 team were consistent, scoring 120 and then 100 points in their two attempts, which for a new team was amazing! Unfortunately, the team were not the overall winners across all three sections, but they were pleased to have won the elusive robot game before two of the older team members retired. Proof that persistence pays off, as the same two pupils have entered the competition for the past five years, since they were in Year 7.

YOU CAN WATCH FOOTAGE OF THE TEAM'S PERFECT ROUND HERE ...
<http://bit.ly/legoleaguecomp>



Juvenes Translatores

Five members of the Sixth Form, studying French, German, Spanish and Russian at A Level, took part in an EU-wide annual translation competition, Juvenes Translatores, in November.

The art of translation is not only in translating the source text correctly, but also in ensuring the final piece reads well in English, so the competition entrants were challenged, both in terms of their A Level studies and in the level of their expression in English. They pitted their wits against other students of the same age throughout Europe and, if they win the competition, will be able to look forward to a visit to an awards ceremony in Brussels later in 2020.



CAPTIONS

1 'This is the first time in our history that a girls' team has won the race.'

2 Despite being against athletes who were as much as five years older, the girls won the event with an impressive 30 seconds to spare.

3 The BGS team were presented with their trophy by Lady Hale, the former president of the Supreme Court.

4 Two BGS teams went to the University of Bradford for the regional Lego League tournament.

5 'Entrants were challenged both in terms of their A Level studies and in the level of their expression in English.'

READ MORE ...
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Table tennis triumphs

BGS has had a busy term of table tennis with 30 pupils taking part in the West Yorkshire Schools Individual Championships, and four BGS teams taking part in the Zone Finals of the English Schools Teams Championships.



CAPTIONS
 1 Winners Josh Poulsen and Evie Davies will represent West Yorkshire in the English Schools finals.
 2 Well done to our six A Level linguists who competed in the Modern Languages Debate.
 3 'The Rugby Parents' Association Rugby Ball was one of the best we've had for years!
 4 The BGS girls' hockey team made history this season!

Individually, Josh Poulsen (U19 boys) and Evie Davies (U13 girls) were winners and will represent West Yorkshire in the English Schools finals in April. This is the first year Josh has won, having competed in the competition for ten years. Shishir Shastry (U13 boys) was second with Ben Pickles (Year 7) losing in the semi-final.

Emma Meng, Eloise Baker and Holly Lainchbury were third, fourth and fifth in the U13 girls and James Bowmer and Zach Cansdale were third and fifth in the U19 boys.

In the team events, BGS faced tough opposition, particularly from Nottinghamshire. The U19 boys lost to Carlton le Willows, but finished second overall, qualifying for the Regional Finals in Blackburn.

The U13 girls defeated Newcastle-under-Lyme, lost to Toot Hill and drew with Carlton le Willows. Unfortunately, they missed out on qualification in a 4-4 draw equal on sets, but losing by only six points.

The U13 boys defeated Birkdale 6-2 but lost to Carlton le Willows in their group. They then unfortunately lost the semi-final 6-2 to Toot Hill.

The U19 boys went on to compete well in the Regional Finals, defeating Sandbach School 8-0 and Reephams School 6-2, but sadly lost to a strong St Mary's College team from Hull 5-3. This result places BGS in the top eight nationally.

Modern Foreign Language Debating Competition

Six A Level linguists were invited to compete in the Modern Languages Debate at St Peter's York, involving lively debates on topics such as global tourism and the positive impact of digital technology, all carried out in French, German or Spanish.

The debates were fierce and fast-paced, but our linguists performed impressively in their first experience at this event. The requirement to think fast, form and deliver an argument in fluent and persuasive language was exhausting to watch, let alone carry out – and all excellent practice for their A Level oral exam! Well done to all our competitors – your teachers are proud of you.

BGS Swimming successes

It was BGS's turn to host the John Parry Relays and HMC schools' event in the Adrian Moorhouse Pool towards the end of last term (November 2019). Ten teams were packed on to the poolside for this annual event, with the water overflowing onto the side of the pool because it could not handle the mass of the swimmers converging in it for warm-up!

Back in 2018, the intermediate girls walked away with a trophy from this event. Most of these girls were back for more, this time ... as Seniors.

They got off to a flying start, as they thundered to a 25m lead in the heat in the 4x50m Medley (Grace Cogan, Rebecca Clynes, Naomi Calvert and Izzy Beatty). Whilst being hot favourites for the final, the girls did not hold back, each delivering a better performance in the final than the heat, lowering their overall time by a little over 1.5 seconds, and in doing so, not only winning, but dipping beneath the previous event record set by Bolton School in 2011!

Buoyed by their whitewash in the Medley Relay, the girls (Philippa Halse, Rebecca Clynes, Naomi Calvert, Izzy Beatty) once again cruised their way into the final as fastest qualifiers. The girls put the 'pedal to the metal' and produced four more blistering swims – dropping another second on their overall time. It was sadly not enough on this occasion to topple the record, but what is exciting is that the exact same team may get another crack at it next year!



Having a Ball!

Rugby fundraising and preparations for the senior development rugby 2020 tour to South Africa and Namibia.

Last term, there was fundraising aplenty through the Rugby Parents' Association, particularly at the annual Christmas Ball, attended by over 200 parents and friends of the school. The evening was one of the best we've had for years; the introduction of Aire Drums to the line-up was hugely successful and a particular highlight – almost blowing the house down with their performance! Thank you to all those that helped 'behind the scenes' to make the event a success and equally to those who supported on the night.

Some of the monies raised through our fundraising activities goes towards the biennial senior development tour, and other junior tours taking place throughout the year. Please put the next Ball date, Saturday 5 December, in your diaries, where we hope to continue to build on previous successes!

Next season's senior rugby players eagerly await their pre-season development tour to South Africa and Namibia, taking place during August. Mr Scarbrough will take the 38 boys from Stellenbosch through Cape Town, Die Swartland, Walvis Bay and Etosha National Park, preparing for the season ahead and playing fixtures along the way, whilst making lifelong memories. Staff and students alike are all very much looking forward to the tour and the boys are training hard in preparation for it.



U14 hockey girls make school history

Champions of the North and National Finalists

Bradford Grammar School U14 girls' hockey team made history this season by being the first team to reach the National Finals of the Investec Girls' Schools Championships. The journey of this competition started at The Grammar School at Leeds back in September 2019 in the West Yorkshire round, where they narrowly missed out on qualifying for Tier 1 by a mere goal, thus qualifying for Tier 2. (It is noteworthy that England Hockey

“...”
 The girls have done the school extremely proud ...

define Tier 1 competitions for schools that contain National Age Group players).

Shortly upon the return from their tour to Rotterdam, the North East finals came about which turned out to be an easy stroll to qualification with the nice bonus of being crowned 'North East Champions'. No more than two weeks later, the North Finals took place. The tournament was a tense affair, but the pupils held their nerve and performed brilliantly to break school history and confirm their spot at the National Finals.

On 2 March, the National Finals took place at Reading Hockey Club. For our first game, we played the team that ended up winning the whole competition – taking them until the last five minutes to score against us. For our second game, we were 2-0 down at half-time but dominated the second half to draw 2-2. We beat Wellingborough 1-0 for our following game, leaving us needing to win our final game by at least three goals against St. Georges, who also needed to win by five to make a medal match. Unfortunately, we lost 3-0 but fought very well.

The girls have done the school extremely proud – to reach this level of the competition and compete well in every game is outstanding. The U14s have made BGS school history!

New Music Department personnel

The Music Department welcomed two new members of the Music team this term; Caroline Davis and Oliver Stokes.

Caroline Davis is our new upper strings teacher and has already made a huge impact in the department in her lessons and directing the Senior String Ensemble, and Clock House Strings. Mrs Davis brings a wealth of experience to BGS, having been a tutor at the Royal Northern Junior Department and a tutor for the National Children's Orchestra of Great Britain.

Mr Stokes is a guitarist and recent music graduate and is assisting in the department with instrumental lesson organisation, concert planning, and GCSE and A level lessons.

There are more students than ever taking instrumental lessons at school on all orchestral and band instruments. Please contact the Music Department if you wish to take advantage of this opportunity.

Music concerts and performances

This term saw a magnificent musical performance in the Hockney Theatre of 'Little Shop of Horrors', with wonderful singing, and student-playing in the pit band. The professional standard of the music was down to the hours of practice and time spent at rehearsals. Well done to all.

This term also saw four smaller recitals, the keyboard, vocal, guitar and brass recitals held in the Music Auditorium. These recitals featured soloists and ensembles, jazz to classical performances and were wonderfully received by our supportive audiences.

[READ MORE ...](#)
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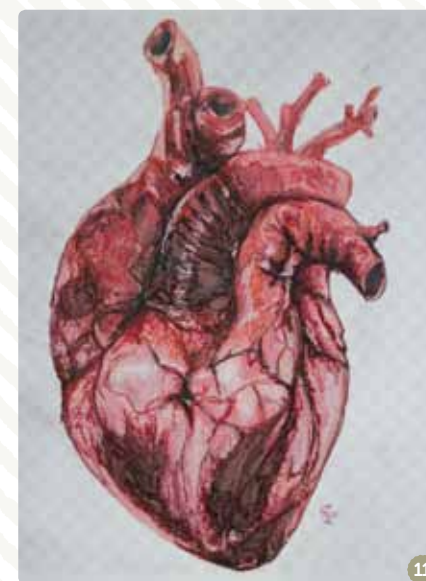
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8



10



11



13



14



9



12

Our artists of the term ...

- 1 Cerys Ali, Year 12
- 2 Maddie Sunderland, Year 12
- 3 Kate McNab, Year 11
- 4 Emily Gibbins, Year 10
- 5 Maya Basra, Year 8
- 6 Isla Millwain, Year 12
- 7 Tabi Lee, Year 12
- 8 Imaan Akhtar, Year 8
- 9 Izzy Moorhouse, Year 13
- 10 Elsa Foster, Year 9
- 11 Joshua Greene, Year 12
- 12 Sophie Latham-Sharp, Year 7
- 13 Sam Dixon, Year 8
- 14 Harry Pope, Year 13



16 willing A Level French students in Years 12 and 13 took up the challenge to plan and deliver a French lesson to all pupils in Years 3 to 6 at a local primary school.

French lessons at Frizinghall Primary



With guidance from their teacher and French assistant, Muriel, they made some excellent resources, thought up games and fun ideas – one even involved a re-telling in French of ‘The Very Hungry Caterpillar’ story. Other topics included French greetings, numbers, family members, colours, foods and pets, with each year group receiving a different lesson.

“...”
It was agreed that this was a valuable experience and one we hope to repeat in the future.

BGS students were delighted with the warm and enthusiastic reception from the pupils and staff at Frizinghall Primary, and with the success of their lessons (even though this was the first experience of teaching for most of them, and some admitted to feeling a little nervous beforehand!) It was agreed by both sides that this was a valuable experience and one we hope to repeat in the future.



WW1 Tribute

On 14 January, our remembrance project paid its last respects to over 230 former pupils who gave their life to serve their country in World War 1. Over the past five and a half years, the school’s Old Bradfordians’ Association (OBA) has collaborated with the former Head of History to reveal the identities and stories of those former pupils who died during the First World War.

The final ceremony remembered all those from the BGS community who were caught up in the courageous but tragic events of the First World War: those who were killed in action, or by subsequent disease, the bereaved, the lost, the families which were shattered, and those who held in silence unspeakable memories of warfare.

READ MORE ...
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BGS wins national wellbeing award

Earlier this term, we were delighted to win a national award for our Happiness campaign, supporting the good mental health of pupils, staff and the wider community. Our pastoral team collected the TES Independent School ‘Wellbeing Initiative of the Year’ Award at an event in London.

The award recognised the collaborative efforts of staff, parents and pupils coming together in a series of online videos talking about how they manage their own mental health. There was also tailored support for pupils who needed it, a focus on how sport and exercise could contribute to good mental health and an emphasis on what staff can do to help pupils’ mental health.

Headmaster, Dr Simon Hinchliffe said: ‘We wanted to make a difference by taking positive action on behalf of ourselves and others. It’s important that we nurture the whole child at BGS as well as supporting them to achieve their academic goals.’

Felicity Robertshaw-Hughes, Deputy Head (Pastoral) at the Junior School, said: ‘Pupil wellbeing is the foundation for academic excellence. It’s imperative that we support our children fully from the minute they join us at the junior school, so that they have the skills to be happy and thrive in the future.’

READ MORE ...
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Open Science Lecture: ‘The Genomics Revolution’

In November 2019, we welcomed Old Bradfordian and former urological surgeon, Rik Bryan back to school to host the autumn term’s Open Science Lecture.

Since the publication of the first human genome in 2001, a genomics revolution has ensued, accompanied by significant technological advancements in both hardware and software.

This revolution is transforming medicine, and nowhere more so than in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer. In the field of bladder cancer, Rik and his team at the University of Birmingham are at the heart of these innovations and Rik delivered a very insightful lecture, titled ‘The Genomics Revolution’, which inspired both students and grown-ups alike.



CAPTIONS

- 1 A Level students took up the challenge to deliver a French lesson to pupils at a local primary school.
- 2 Our remembrance project paid its last respects to over 230 former pupils who gave their life to serve their country in WW1.
- 3 BGS win ‘Wellbeing Initiative of the Year’ Award for our Happiness campaign.
- 4 We welcomed urological surgeon and Old Bradfordian, Rik Bryan back to BGS.



BGS pupils help create anti-knife campaign app

Pupils from BGS have designed a new app to save more young people from knife crime.

They joined forces with other schools, charities, police and the Home Office to create 'Aunty Knife' – a portal for reporting crime and advice for parents or teenagers who feel unsafe, available on both Apple and Android.

The play on word campaign by Neesie is designed to sit in the hearts and minds of young people, who tailored the features to what they want to see, and acts as a family figure to those at risk.

Two pupils from BGS were also selected to attend a meeting in the Houses of Parliament to present their group's policy paper. Their reports will offer solutions to ministers in the plight to reduce and eradicate the national weapon epidemic.

[READ MORE ...](#)
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Year 9 Schools Linking event

Year 9 Students have taken part in a Schools Linking project with Oasis Academy Lister Park. At the last meeting, they were challenged to come up with an idea which would help children attending primary schools in Manningham.

The students did a great job presenting their ideas which included:

- collecting spare wellies and raincoats which were passed onto nursery and reception children to ensure they can play out even on wet days;
- creating audio versions of children's stories read in different languages, so children can hear stories at home with their families who might struggle to read English.

The students worked well together to create ideas and communicate them well. We made sure we had lots of fun, with team building games and had a great lunch together too.

Feedback from students and visitors was very positive:

'I had a lot of fun learning about other people and being able to interact with them.'

'We had loads of fun meeting new people and we got to do loads of activities that helped us connect.'

Dr Simon Hinchliffe, Headmaster said: 'The recent Linking Network partnership activity was another success. Mr Boardman and I enjoyed joining students from both schools in team building activities and later received their presentations and offered feedback. The groups

pushed themselves out of their comfort zones and worked collaboratively with new people, before pitching their ideas to invited guests. The task was not easy, but the groups did themselves and their schools proud. If barriers and misconceptions exist between schools and groups within them, these have been broken down'.

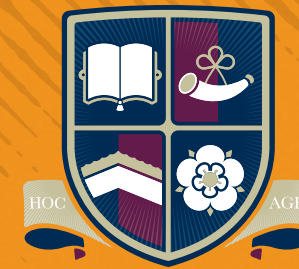
“...”

... the groups did themselves and their schools proud.

DR SIMON HINCHLIFFE

Junior

Soft



Bradford
Grammar
School

JUNIORS

SPRING 2020

NEWS
TRIPS
EVENTS
SPORTS





Welcome

If children today want to know something, they tend to go straight to the internet – typing in ‘laughter’ to Google leads to a variety of articles ...

Some will tell you that children will laugh up to 300 times a day, which seems an amazingly high number of occasions, and, as you would expect, puts adult laughter sessions into the shade. Others report on the positive effect that laughing has on a person. It has the ability to decrease stress hormones, to encourage infection fighting antibodies, and relax muscles; it sounds like a rather powerful ally in the fight to keep our children healthy and safe in the modern world.

One of the greatest pleasures of being in Clock House is that laughter is heard so often – when children see each other wearing their clothes inside out to highlight Children’s Mental Health Week, when the Young Voices assembly has everyone on their feet and the children see ‘staff dancing’ (which is an even more embarrassing version of ‘dad dancing’), when the downdraught from the Royal helicopter’s manoeuvres blows everyone’s hair awry. None of these things are planned or ‘on the curriculum’ but they are a cherished part of our day.

Laughter is also a great way to strengthen our immune systems, which is even more pertinent in light of current events.

The following pieces will give you a flavour of our days and hopefully raise at least a wry smile!

Jane Disley
Junior School Headmistress

Note: all events may be subject to change

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“...”
... the pupils are thoroughly enjoying their sporting opportunities ...



Sporting Successes

The Junior School pupils have had a very busy sporting calendar so far this year, competing in a wide range of activities against other schools.

Pupils have taken part in several competitions in a festival format, the majority of which have been hosted at BGS in our new facilities. Year 3 have taken part in an invasion games festival, Years 4, 5 and 6 boys in rugby and hockey festivals and Years 4, 5 and 6 girls in hockey and netball festivals. The aim of the festivals is to give children as much playing experience as possible with the emphasis upon development rather than outcome. This has offered pupils an opportunity to experience and try out the new skills which they have developed in PE and Games lessons in a series of short games against teams from local independent schools and local authority schools in our area.

In addition to the festivals, pupils have also represented school and competed well in our more traditional fixtures programme; playing rugby, hockey, netball and swimming against schools in the West & North Yorkshire area including Ashville, GSAL, Bronte House, QEGs, Wakefield Girls, St Olaves and Gateways.

District, County and HMC competitions have been attended in cross country, gymnastics, swimming, table tennis, U11 rugby and U11 girls’ hockey as well as the U11 rugby team competing in the prestigious Harrison Cup tournament.

There are many more festivals and HMC competitions in gymnastics, netball, boys’ hockey and rugby 7’s to attend this term. It is fair to say that the Junior School pupils are very busy and are thoroughly enjoying their sporting opportunities, representing BGS with enthusiasm and pride!

BY GEORGINA JONES,
HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL PE AND GAMES

APRIL

MAY

21 April
Year 3 Cyber Safety talk
22 to 24 April
Years 5 and 6
Residential Visit

Week commencing
5 May
Year 3
Ingleborough Hall Trip
12 May
Year 2 Abbey House Trip
13 May
Year 6
Online Bullying talk with
West Yorkshire Police
21 May
Outdoor Learning Day
22 May
Brownlee Triathlon
22 May
School closes

JUNE / JULY

1 June
School re-opens
5 June
Year 2 Borrowdale Trip
8 June
Bradford’s Got Cyber
Talent Final, Hockney
Theatre
9 June
Sports’ Day
16 June
New Pupils’ Day
23 June
**Junior School
Production**
Dress Rehearsal
24 June
Grandparents’ Day
Performance Matinee
25 to 26 June
**Junior School
Production**
Evening Performances
29 June
Year 6 Transition Day
1 July
Prize Giving



HMC Swimming Success

On Friday 25 January, the Junior School Swimming Team travelled to the John Charles Centre for Sport in Leeds to take part in the HMC North-East Swimming Championships.

It was a long day for the swimming team because there were 32 events across the day, with individual races in the morning and relays in the afternoon.

Pupils waited patiently to swim their races and observed other swimmers with care in order to work on their areas of strength and development.

After a quick lunch break, the races resumed and the swimmers raced until 3pm when the events were complete. Our swimming team coaches could not have been prouder of all our resilient competitors. Our motto 'Hoc Age' showed its true colours on the day. BY WILL M

Medical Mavericks

On Thursday 16 January, the Year 6 pupils were honoured to be visited by a specialist 'Medical Mavericks' duo named Toby and Amar. They came to talk to staff and pupils about the prospect of a medical career and the associated opportunities.

At the Medical Mavericks workshops, they opened the doors to the medical world, just enough to wet pupils' appetites and drive their ambitions enough to inspire them to find out more. The key message from the day was the belief that every individual has the ability to achieve their dreams.

Pupils discovered that high grades are not essential for every single medical vocation. They explained that there are in fact only some jobs that require exceptionally high grades. One of these is becoming a GP. This surprised many pupils.

Pupils had the chance to use different specialist hospital equipment including syringes for taking blood from an artificial arm, an ultrasound machine for taking a picture of the inside of the body and a keyhole surgery machine. BY MADDIE D AND LIBERTY P

“...”
... every individual has the ability to achieve their dreams.



A Royal Visit

On Wednesday 15 January, unbeknown to surprised Clock House staff and pupils, we were graced with the presence of members of the Royal Family.

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge landed on the rugby pitch in a helicopter, then swiftly departed to the centre of Bradford. One of the special places they visited was 'MyLahore' where they made mango kulfi smoothies. They also visited both the town hall and the Khidmat Centre, which focuses on providing services for the most vulnerable members of the Bradford community from minority ethnic backgrounds. Surrounded by their security, it was difficult to speak to the visitors, but their smiles and waves will stay with many of us for ever.

A Clock House pupil said, 'I've never seen a member of the Royal Family before and it felt very special. I rushed out of my lesson when I heard the helicopter approaching and waited on the slope until the helicopter landed. When they got out of the helicopter, we could only see them for several minutes until they drove off to City Hall in Bradford.'

Miss Marsden said, 'We were mesmerised and stunned by this unexpected visit. I'm not sure who was more excited - me or my class!' BY EMMA C AND KHADIJAH N



“...”
There were two challenges which were very difficult, but we still enjoyed it.

Young Voices 2020

On Monday 13 January, the annual Young Voices concert was held. School choirs from all around the North of England travelled to Sheffield Arena to form one enormous choir of singers.

The attendance figure was an astonishing 5,131. The singers were visited by different singers such as Ruti (the winner of 'The Voice' 2018), Tony Hadley (who was the lead singer of a band called 'Spandau Ballet' in the 80s) and 'The Shires' who are a country duet.

Hoc Age

Mega Mathletes' Victory

The annual maths competition was held at the Explore Learning Centre in Greengates on 15 January 2020.

Mrs Tatham took four school pupils: Navjot S, Finlay J, Emma C and Lucy M. The great news was that they were victorious in their heat out of an outstanding twenty-seven schools! Unfortunately, they didn't get through to the grand final at the Natural History Museum but came very close. Mrs Tatham was very proud of them. One of our mathletes, Lucy M, said: 'There were two challenges which were very difficult, but we still enjoyed it.' BY JACOB H

A live band also played to accompany the singing.

Keen Young Voices attendee, Hari, enjoyed his first ever time. Here are a few points he told us about his experience. 'I enjoyed singing my heart out and dancing for joy with all of my friends. I would really love to go again. One of my many favourite parts was dancing with the Urban Strides. My favourite visitor was definitely Ruti.'

We look forward to making this trip an annual event for Clock House pupils. BY THOMAS H AND BILAAL A



CAPTIONS
1 Junior School pupils 'finding their brave'.
2 Lewis Pattinson, BGS Head Groundsman

Finding our 'Brave'

During the week beginning 3 February, Clock House pupils participated in many activities linked to mental health and the importance of speaking up about our feelings. The theme was 'Find Your Brave'.

On Thursday 6 February, pupils were asked to wear an item of their school uniform inside out; some pupils wore their blazers inside out and some wore their trousers or skirts inside out. This was to symbolise that everyone might look just fine on the outside, but we never know what battle they might be facing on the inside.

On Friday 7 February, it was NSPCC Number Day. Children were asked to wear an item of clothing featuring a number. Since it was launched 20 years ago, over 3,500 schools have got involved with Number Day and raised nearly £2 million. This money has been used to protect children from harm.

A lasting memory from this amazing and inspiring week was our 'Billboard of Bravery' which celebrated moments when Bradfordians have 'found their brave'. There were messages from people across the whole school community including children, teachers, parents and non-teaching staff.

Mrs Robertshaw-Hughes, Deputy Head Pastoral, led this event. I interviewed her to find out her thoughts ...

Why is it important?
Mental health problems affect lots of people, including people we know. It is important we talk about mental health, so that people understand the problems faced by others and nobody is treated any differently.

How will awareness help young people?
Mental Health Week will help children with mental health to get the support they need; it will help them to ask for support and talk about their problems, so that they feel safe.

What has inspired you to support 'Mental Health Week'?
My job in Clock House is to make sure every child is happy and safe in our school and make sure they get the support that they need when they need it.

BY AIZA G

Table Tennis Champions

On Thursday 16 January, four talented pupils from Clock House set out on a mission to become the West Yorkshire table tennis champions. The pupils involved included Liberty P, Khadijah N, Olivia G and Robyn L.

The tournament took place in the Sports Hall at BGS. Three different schools participated in this event. Every person played five games each to the best of three. Mr Crabtree coached the tournament and was complimentary about all pupils taking part. The outcome of the event was Liberty finishing second, Khadijah coming fourth, Olivia coming fifth and Robyn coming sixth. Unfortunately, they couldn't go to the Yorkshire Championships because of the absence of one player.

Overall, the tournament was a success and a fun experience for everyone who attended. This event has set the bar high for next year.

Key results for this season

- ★ U11 girls were West Yorkshire Champions
- ★ U11 girls defeated Eldwick Primary 7-1
- ★ U11 boys were West Yorkshire Champions
- ★ U11 boys defeated Ackworth, Lady Lane and Eldwick Primary
- ★ U11 boys were fifth in the zone finals against the county winners
- ★ Second in West Yorkshire, U11 individual girls, Liberty P
- ★ Semi-finalists were Hari S and Aarez A

BY ASHALINA K AND ROOP H



'It's not just a job, it's a way of life ...'

Meet Lewis Pattinson
BGS Head Groundsman

'I manage the daily work activities of the Estates Department to ensure that the grounds, pitches and gardens are maintained and kept in good condition. I'm an award-winning groundsman having won the Institute of Groundsmanship Young Groundsman of the Year in 2016. Before joining BGS, I worked as Deputy Head Groundsman at London Stadium for two years which is home to West Ham United Football Club.

When I first saw the school grounds, I thought "what a fantastic challenge!" They were good, but I wanted the standard to be excellent – just like the ethos of BGS. This value was instilled in me from a young age when I set up my own gardening company at 14 years old. I only got paid five pounds a week pocket money, so I wanted to feel more independent.

I cut everyone's garden on the street and my next-door neighbour asked if I'd like to go and work for him as an apprentice greenkeeper on his private golf course. He could see how passionate and interested I was. I suppose I already embodied BGS's Hoc Age 'get on and do it' attitude from an early age, an attitude I see reflected every day in our pupils and staff across 28 beautiful acres.

One of my biggest achievements so far has been to put in place a new fertiliser programme using feedback from an agronomist, who's knowledgeable in turf grasses and their management. They provided useful practical advice as well as an overall assessment of the condition

of the current BGS sport grounds. Going back to basics in this way allows us to track, maintain and achieve better results for our outstanding new £4 million sport facilities that includes new cricket lanes, netball and tennis courts and astro-turfed hockey pitches as well as our all-weather sports barn.

The sports barn and hockey pitches are world class, so I've invested in new machinery to maintain these and all the new pitches, inside and out. It's all about continuous, top-level maintenance and care, to provide the best experience for pupils, staff and the wider community. Small details also have a big impact. For example, I've changed all the rugby posts. These used to be pulled out of the ground using a lorry, which over time can cause wear and tear on the turf. These have been replaced with new aluminium hinged rugby posts which are much better for long term use and the wider environment.

I've worked professionally on many sports, ranging from Rugby League, Rugby Union, Football, Athletics and Major League Baseball. It's not just a job, it's a way of life. Nobody really goes to school and says: 'I want to be a groundsman'. People tend to naturally fall into it through other passions, myself included. I've spoken to many top groundsmen who were professional footballers coming through the ranks. When they didn't get taken on, they realised they still wanted to be involved in the sporting environment and ended up working in stadiums.

I absolutely love working in a school after a large stadium. The environment is warm, intimate and I feel extremely valued and looked after here. From 14 years of age I knew this was my calling and now I can concentrate all my efforts on this fabulous school.'

READ MORE ...
bradfordgrammar.com/news/staff-voices



Hoc Age





Amazon UK Business Trip

Students studying A Level Business gained valuable insights into how your Amazon orders are processed and delivered, when they visited the Amazon Fulfilment Centre in Doncaster, one of more than 175 worldwide.

CAPTIONS

1 A Level Business students paying the Amazon Fulfilment Centre in Doncaster a visit.

2 'Vermont's Green Mountains were shrouded in a white veil of plush and powdery snow.'

3 The senior ski trip to Killington, USA was a fantastic success.

4 Enjoying the slopes and beautiful blue skies during the junior ski trip.

5 Year 13 historians on their way in to the Tower of London as part of an intensive study tour of Tudor London just before February half term.

They enjoyed a tour of one of the four Amazon warehouses located at the site which was over 800,000 square feet in size, following the products as they were delivered to the site, stored, and then redistributed to locations over the North of England. Amazon staff led the tour, explaining Amazon's background and how technology was used on the site, and then provided an opportunity for the students to ask questions, before they left with their own Amazon souvenir plane or van!

BY DAVE PULLEN, HEAD OF BUSINESS

“...”

Students enjoyed a tour of one of Amazon's four warehouses, which was over 800,000 square feet in size ...

Senior Ski Trip – Killington, USA

The week-long senior ski trip to Killington was a fantastic success, led by and due to Mr Taylor, Mr and Mrs Thornton and Mr Darnbrough.

Vermont's Green Mountains were shrouded in a white veil of plush and powdery snow. Despite frigid and frozen weather, as temperatures dropped to -22 degrees, conditions were perfect for the skiers and snowboarder. A competition was run daily for the 'Master of Disaster' awards, the prize for which was being made to wear either a carrot or clown costume! This was won by whoever had befallen the worst fall. The trip was not, however, enjoyed on the piste alone – evening entertainment included an ice-hockey match, shopping challenge at Walmart, bowling, hot chocolate and a quiz night.

BY JAMES HARTLEY, YEAR 13

Junior Ski Trip – Bardonecchia, Italy

February saw the return of another successful Junior Ski Trip, this time to the resort of Bardonecchia, in North West Italy.

The students were treated to five hours of ski instruction per day and a programme of evening entertainment.

Whilst we were lucky to have beautiful blue skies, this unfortunately meant that powder snow was in short supply. This didn't dampen

the spirit of our students however, with every group making superb progress throughout the week. The return of 'Master of Disaster' proved to be a highlight of the trip, with recipients required to wear the 'Disaster hat' on the next ski day.

The students also had the opportunity to stay in the Olympic Village, the hotel which hosted athletes from the 2006 Olympic Games. Après-ski included activities such as ice skating, a disco and a film and pizza night.

Tudor London Trip

The Tudor monarchs rarely travelled north, so it fell on the History Department to take our students south to investigate how key sites can help us understand the nature of power and rule in the Sixteenth Century.

Highlights included Hampton Court Palace, Henry VII's chapel and Tudor tombs in Westminster Abbey, getting close up to the detail of the real Tudor portraits in the National Portrait Gallery, experiencing ship-board life on the replica of Francis Drake's Golden Hinde, reading the graffiti left by high profile prisoners in the Tower of London and stopping off to see how Kenilworth Castle was remodelled for Elizabeth's visit in 1575 – the furthest north she ever went.