

SUMMER
2020

CHALLENGE 03-08
ARTS 08-11
JUNIORS 13-20
COMMUNITY 12, 21-23
LIFE 24-28



Bradford
Grammar
School

Hac Age

Feature

Creativity
and
ingenuity...

Talented Clock
House pupil, Yahya
Murad Hussain, has
crafted a unique
mosque in his
own playroom.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 03





Welcome from the Headmaster

Welcome all to this latest edition of 'Hoc Age'.

As ever, the pages that follow offer a taste of life at BGS. The fact that our pupils have remained positively minded and busy, engaged enthusiastically in their studies and wider interests, despite the challenges of COVID-19, of distance and separation, is a testament to their ambition, resilience and spirit, and a reflection of the support they are receiving from home and school. So please read on for much cheer and pride in our school.

At this time every year we begin saying farewell to our Leavers. We will miss these fine young folk who have made the most of the opportunities at BGS for learning and personal growth, and who have given so much back in return. We pass on every good wish to them as they embrace life as Old Bradfordians, esteemed alumni of our historic school. At the same time, we are looking forward to welcoming new pupils and families to the Junior and Senior Schools at BGS, much as we did with Mr Ribeiro, our new Clock House Headmaster, just a few weeks ago.

So, read on, do look after yourselves, and sincere thanks for your many messages of good will and encouragement.

With all best wishes,

Simon Hinchliffe

Dr Simon Hinchliffe

LATEST BLOG ...
bradfordgrammar.com/simonsblog



EVENTS

At BGS, we have a varied events programme for all members of the BGS family, which we would usually publish here in 'Hoc Age'.

Given the current situation we are facing around COVID-19 however, and the uncertainty around what events will be able to take place in the near future, we have refrained from publishing any dates in this edition.

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IN THE PRESS ...
<https://bit.ly/bgs-press-portfolio>



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 01

Clock House pupil, Yahya Murad Hussain, used his ingenuity to turn his playroom into a mosque using recycled cardboard packaging from his parents' new desk.

He came up with the idea himself following the closure of the mosques in his home city of Bradford due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“...”
We're really proud of Yahya for taking on such a challenge and showing real ingenuity ...

It took him about a week to design and build his unusual DIY project and his parents helped with the structure and some of the more intricate Islamic geometric designs.

Yahya used sweet wrappers and paint to complete his mosque before adding fairy lights, a diffuser with different scents and a light box, to which he adds an inspirational word or two every day – from 'Be Happy' to 'Smile'.

Yahya said: 'I decided that, because all the mosques were closed, I might as well make my own. I wanted it to be a special area and a peaceful place in the house. It is magical and it makes me feel happy when I go in there.'

Yahya's mum, Auzma Yousaf, said: 'We're so proud of him for showing the patience and determination to get it finished. He uses it every day, not just to pray, but also to read and reflect. We spend time in there together as a family to pray and reflect.'



'It's not been easy for him not seeing his friends or cousins, so this project has given him a positive purpose in this lockdown period. It's important to make the best of the situation that we're in.'

'Sometimes children can be the greatest teachers, showing strength and resilience by finding something positive to focus on in times of crisis.'

Richard Ribeiro, Junior School Headmaster, said: 'We're really proud of Yahya for taking on such a challenge and showing real ingenuity in creating a happy, inspiring and safe place to be in his home. Well done Yahya!'

TAKE A TOUR OF YAHYA'S MOSQUE ...
<https://youtu.be/fTwp-SkJctU>



Our Year 10 netballers raise funds despite lockdown

Over the weekend of 24-26 April, our superstar Year 10 netballers took it upon themselves to keep busy in isolation.

They each ran 1.5 miles to cover the 26-mile distance of the London Marathon, which should have taken place on Sunday 26 April, raising money for Brain Research UK in support of Miss Miller.

The girls raised just under £300 which they later donated to Miss Miller's JustGiving page.

Well done to the girls – a fantastic achievement and kind gesture in support of Miss Miller – a true representation of teamwork and the BGS netball family we have created.



CAPTIONS

- 1 The BGS corner-board sends out a message to the BGS family.
- 2 BGS staff really miss the students.
- 3 It took Yahya a week to design and build his mosque.
- 4 Our Year 10 netballers raised just under £300.

Sports Roundup

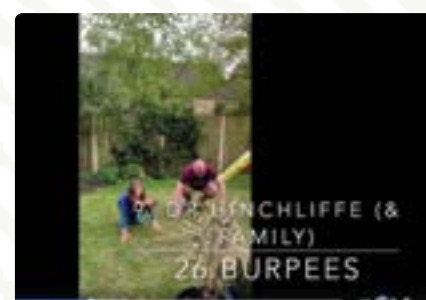
What to do when school shuts and sport is cancelled?

This is a challenge that no one could have imagined possible a few months ago. Not to be discouraged, the BGS Sport Department set to work creating and producing as many activities and resources as possible to help inspire students and staff. From skills and fitness sessions, video analysis groups and quizzes, to a shirt design competition and challenges galore, we set about making them all happen.

Students have been receiving messages of resources and support throughout this time from the department and it has been so amazing to see the results. Those normally more active are challenging themselves to invent new ways to exercise, and those maybe less inclined to put on a pair of trainers are getting stuck in and realising the importance of staying active during this time.

Some of the projects that have happened this term have been the 2.6 Challenge, the Virtual Running Challenge and the 'Skill Up' Challenge. Clock House students have received daily challenges to fine tune their skills and be creative, from Garden Olympics to a rainbow shirt challenge and VE Day themed sporting activities.

On Sunday 26 April, Miss Miller was due to run the London Marathon for Brain Research UK. Due to COVID-19, this was postponed and in its place the London Marathon set up the #twopointsixchallenge. This was an initiative to encourage people to get involved in anything related to the numbers two and six (as a marathon is 26.2 miles). Miss Miller challenged BGS staff and students to take part in the challenge and there was a great uptake from all. There were many entries, from both Junior and Senior School, all equally impressive. Entries included: 26 minutes of yoga, 26 'keepy ups', 2.6 minutes of juggling, 26 blueberries stuffed in a mouth at one time, 260 netball shots, 26 one handed pogo stick jumps, 26m skid on a bike, 26 échappé en pointe and someone even swam for 26 minutes



WATCH THE 2.6 CHALLENGE ...
<https://bit.ly/sport-challenges>



“...”

... it has been so amazing to see the results.

BGS students did themselves proud ...

“...”
This ingenious idea proved to be very popular ...

in a small pool in their back garden with a bungee rope tied to them! The list goes on. It's great to see so many of the BGS community staying active and keeping involved in BGS challenges. Well done to you all.

The Virtual Running Challenge saw six schools compete over three running challenges: a 1km and 3km distance, plus a 20-minute time trial. All schools encouraged their students and staff to record their times and distance to compete against others from the other side of the country. BGS students did themselves proud with a number of top ten finishes and a couple of team category victories as well. A total of 635 people recorded scores which is a great initial figure. I really hope the vast majority, if not more, continue to be active as we attempt to come out of lockdown.

The 'Skill Up' Challenge is inspiring the BGS community to try and learn something new whilst in lockdown. This could be a new language, a magic trick, training animals or trying to run 5km in under 20 minutes. Keep going if you have engaged!

This is definitely a time to be creative and try something new.

Stay safe and be active.

BY MR ROGERS, DIRECTOR OF SPORT

A message from Mr. Hoath with regards to DofE work ...

Despite lockdown, DofE work continues, with students working towards the completion of their award. Expeditions will take place when conditions and the guidance regarding social distancing allow.



Wildlife charity fundraising target 'smashed'!

Milli R is currently doing her Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award through school.

For the Volunteering element of the award, she chose to help animal charity, Wildlife SOS: a non-profit organisation who work tirelessly to protect and save India's wildlife, well known for rescuing abused elephants and all of India's 'dancing' bears from the tourist trade. Milli set herself an ambitious fundraising target of £400.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, she was, however unable to proceed with one of her main fundraising activities; a 'coffee and cake morning', which she had hoped to run utilising her newly acquired skill of baking. However, this didn't stop Milli and using her ingenuity and support from Debbie Haynes at the charity, she altered her project plans and set out to raise money in three different ways:

1. Creating a fundraiser on Facebook, writing about the charity and asking for online donations.
2. Organising a raffle for two Raju elephant soft toys, supplied to Milli by the charity – this has currently raised £300 with some tickets still available.
3. Milli then, with the support of her family, surveyed her house and garage and placed items such as an old printer, scooters and a games console that were no longer played with, on the local community Facebook page for local people to collect on their daily walk from her doorstep. Milli simply requested a voluntary donation to her fundraiser, so no exchange of monies took place. This ingenious idea proved to be very popular and helped to boost her fundraising.

Since March, Milli has tripled her fundraising target and has, at the time of writing this article, raised just over £1,200.

READ MORE ABOUT WILDLIFE SOS ...
<https://wildlifesos.org/our-work>

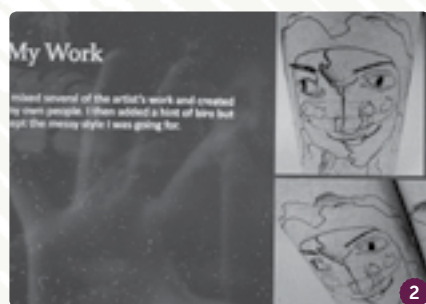


CAPTIONS

1 Milli chose to raise funds for animal charity, Wildlife SOS.



CAPTIONS
1 Online singing lessons took place thanks to video calls



2 The BGS Art Club 'ugly mug' toilet roll challenge



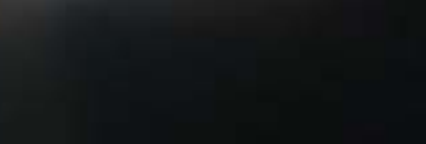
3 The Historical Egg Challenge – we received some 'egg-cellent' entries!



4 Year 9 art inspired by Andy Goldsworthy



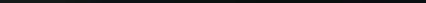
5 Kallie, Year 8, has found new excitement in viewing the moon



6 BGS music performances take to the streets



7 VE Day bunting



8 A Year 9 runner conquers a local trig point, as part of the #twopointsixchallenge – a 10k run, plus another 2.6k!

Apart but always united

Back in mid-March, we began to enter new territory, not only as a school community, but as a nation. As the Headmaster quoted in his blog at the time: 'These are unprecedented times and we are embracing new ways of learning, working and looking after each other. Bradford Grammar School is not closed, we are simply adjusting to a new routine'. And that we did.

Since going into lockdown, virtual teaching via Microsoft Teams became the norm, and new web pages were developed to help keep the school community up-to-date with resources and BGS communications.

Content is regularly added to these webpages and is broad and varied, ranging from sporting challenges, to school assemblies and book clubs, to art, science and music projects, and even learning how to cook/bake with our Executive Chef!

These images are just a snapshot of the examples that have been shared with us.

READ MORE ...
bradfordgrammar.com/covid-19
[#bgsfamily](https://twitter.com/bgsfamily)



Our students adapt to new ways of working

The final term of this academic year has certainly been very different to any we have experienced before. As Heads of Year, we are extremely proud and impressed by the way in which the students have adapted to these unprecedented times.

Our students' ability to adapt to the new ways of working and to learn how to use new technologies has certainly put us to shame! We would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of the work which has really impressed us during our period of online learning. We look forward to seeing all of you in the not so distant future! Hoc Age!

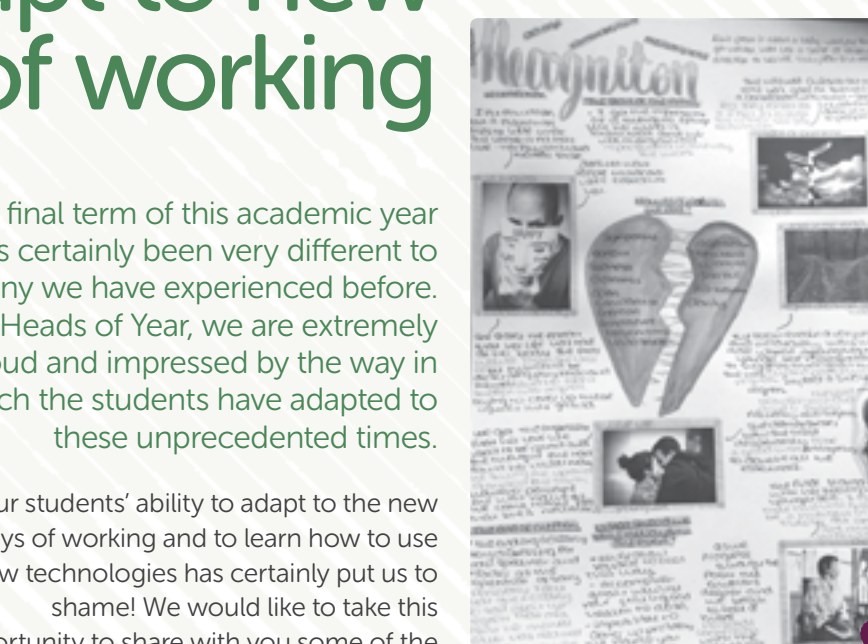
FROM THE HEADS OF YEAR



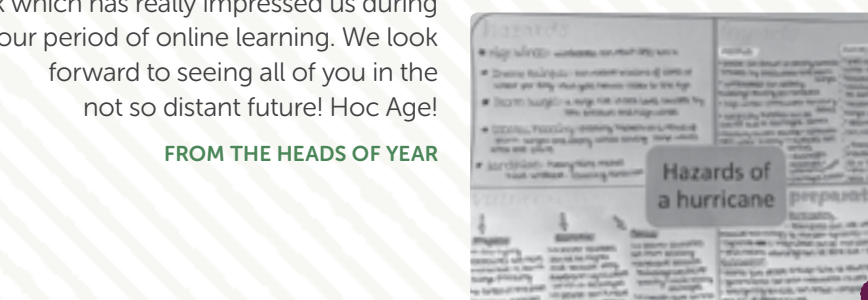
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6



7



2



3

CAPTIONS

- 1 Year 7
- 2 Year 7
- 3 Year 8
- 4 Year 9
- 5 Year 10
- 6 Year 11
- 7 Year 12



Farewell Year 13

In March, Year 13 were hit with a real bombshell. Just as they were ‘gearing up’ for the biggest exams of their lives, the government suspended A levels for 2020. We then went into lockdown. It is difficult to exaggerate how much of a blow this was.

These were students who had reached the culmination of their BGS careers and were now denied the chance to demonstrate their true worth.

Yet, there have been some real positives to come out of this experience. My colleagues have been extremely impressed with the levels of engagement and intellectual curiosity displayed by the students, with some outstanding pieces of work submitted during the shutdown. The students have also become much more resourceful and self-reliant, skills that are going to be essential as they move into Higher Education and the job market. They have been superb and, as their Head of Year, I am especially proud of them all.

BY MR REED-PURVIS, HEAD OF YEAR 13

Arts

“...”

My parents keep my feet on the ground ...



Music student celebrates diploma achievement

Towards the end of last term, sixth form student, John Scholey, had cause for celebration, after gaining a full singing diploma – a feat not usually achieved until much older.

John, 16, sang on Michael Portillo’s ‘Great British Railway Journeys’ last year, performing Frederick Delius’s ‘La Lune Blanche’. He sings with the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain and also sang with the Rodolfus Choir and soprano Katherine Jenkins at The Royal Albert Hall late last year.

Now the teenager, who wants to secure a choral scholarship at King’s College Cambridge, has gained his full singing diploma, the first student in years to achieve the accolade at the school.

John said: ‘It took over a year to work towards this diploma, so it was fantastic to hear that I’d passed. Music has become my life. There are so many opportunities open to



Acting the part

Talented young actor Connor Elliott is hoping the next series of a popular BBC children’s television show will still go ahead this summer.

Connor, 14 spends most of his summers filming for the CBBC sketch show ‘Class Dismissed’, which has just been commissioned for a seventh series. The show follows four Year 9 pupils as they grapple with everyday life with extraordinary teachers.

Connor has been acting and singing since he was four and secured his first part alongside theatre star Jason Donovan for the UK tour of ‘Priscilla Queen of the Desert’ when he was aged just seven.

The teenager has been part of the ‘Class Dismissed’ cast for two years and has also appeared on stage with CBBC’s Mr Tumble, where he had to deliver his performance using Makaton sign language for his young audience. He has taken part in the children’s version of the television show ‘Gogglebox’ and his most recent achievement is landing a part in Wakefield Theatre Royal’s production of ‘Oklahoma’.

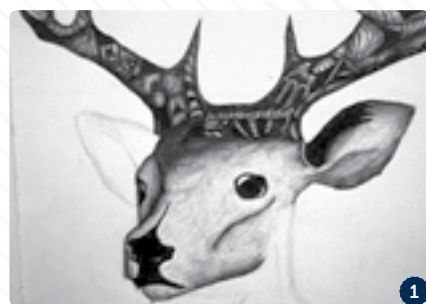
Connor has already passed with distinction his Grade 5 in Music Theatre and has a Grade 5 singing award from The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM). He said he was one of the lucky few who wasn’t affected by nerves on stage or screen.

He said: ‘I really enjoy filming ‘Class Dismissed’, it’s absolutely hilarious to do. You have to act like you’re in a normal school class. I’ve made a lot of friends and there are some really great actors which are part of it. Some of them have been acting for years so it’s a good opportunity to learn from them. We’re just hoping that filming will still be able to go ahead this year.’

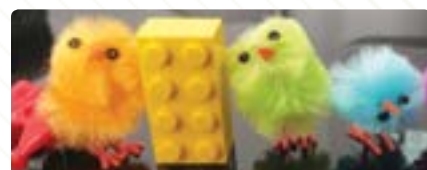
READ MORE ...
<https://bit.ly/acting-the-part>



CAPTIONS
1 BGS Class of 2020.
2 We are all very proud of John and what he has achieved.
3 Connor on the set of ‘Class Dismissed’.



1



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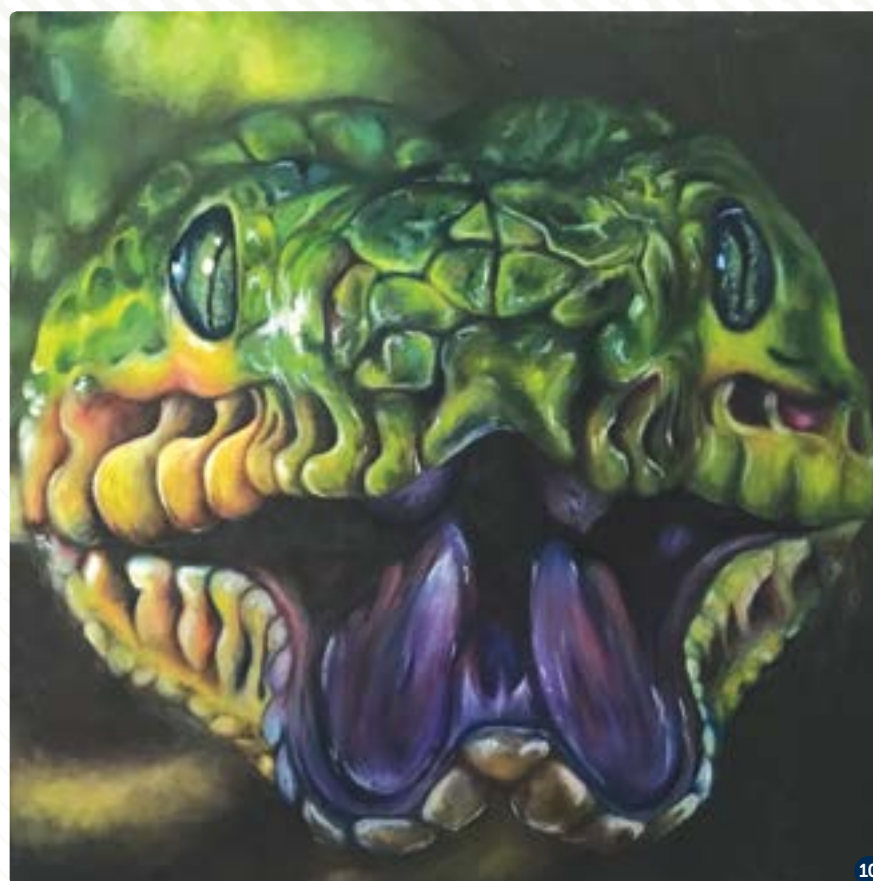
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8



9



10



11



12



13



14

Our artists of the term ...

- 1 Eesa, Year 9
- 2 Subhaan, Mya and Sulaymann, Year 7
- 3 William, Year 7
- 4 Millie, Year 12
- 5 Sam, Year 8
- 6 Emari, Year 9
- 7 Noor, Year 13
- 8 Emily, Year 10
- 9 James, Year 7
- 10 Issy, Year 13
- 11 Elsa, Year 9
- 12 Simran, Year 8
- 13 Ellie, Year 10
- 14 Avani, Year 9

The Music Department has continued to flourish this term, albeit in a different and new way!

Music roundup



We are thrilled that our visiting instrumental staff are able to continue teaching students both in Clock House and the Senior School.

The students should be commended on how well they have adapted to this change. It has been a real pleasure receiving feedback from parents as to how these lessons have gone and equally, the music teachers have fed back to me about what a pleasure it has been teaching students at home. I know the music teachers have also enjoyed the interaction with students and parents alike. On Wednesday 20 May, I observed two excellent brass lessons via Microsoft Teams, one to a Clock House pupil and another to a Year 8 student. Well done to the students for engaging so well with these lessons and a big thank you to the music teachers delivering these.

Senior Choir has moved online and welcomed new members as it always does at this time of year. Through Microsoft Teams, students have worked on Stanford's Jubilate in B flat and Howells' 'Like as the Hart' as well as learning hymns for Founders' Day. It's not all serious music though, with members mastering a mean rendition of 'The Ping Pong Song' – a definite ear



2



3

worm! Taking a choir 'virtually' with everyone's microphone muted has been bizarre at times, but we've had great fun along the way. At the time of writing, we're learning a new song, written by Will Todd. 'Like a Rainbow Shining' has been written for the COVID-19 pandemic and is based on the idea of rainbows appearing in people's windows. Students have been encouraged to send in videos of themselves singing their respective parts to be included in a school virtual choir.

A new group started this term, rehearsing at 1pm on a Wednesday. This group, appropriately named 'Wednesday sing-along' was intended as a more light-hearted singing group, with no concert to prepare for or public performance. Students vote on a theme for the week and so far, we've sung Disney, ABBA, and 80s songs! Lyrics and sheet music are uploaded two days before and fancy dress is optional!

We've also enjoyed receiving videos of students performing for their communities. In particular, Keira (Year 9) performing on her saxophone at her street's VE Day party and Alfie (Year 8) performing every Thursday for the Clap for Carers. Alfie performs on his trombone and has started to receive requests for pieces to play. Well done to both students!

Hannah (Year 12) recently participated in the Rodolfus Foundation's Virtual Choral Evensong. Many of our students attend the Eton Choral Courses every year. Unfortunately, these have been cancelled this summer, but the Foundation put together a Choral Evensong broadcast on Facebook, with readings and contributions from Stephen Fry, The Reverend Richard Coles and Alexander Armstrong.

At the time of writing, I am busy collating a variety of student performances for inclusion in the first virtual lunchtime recital. On behalf of the department, we can't wait to be making music together again.

BY MISS WHITE, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

CAPTIONS

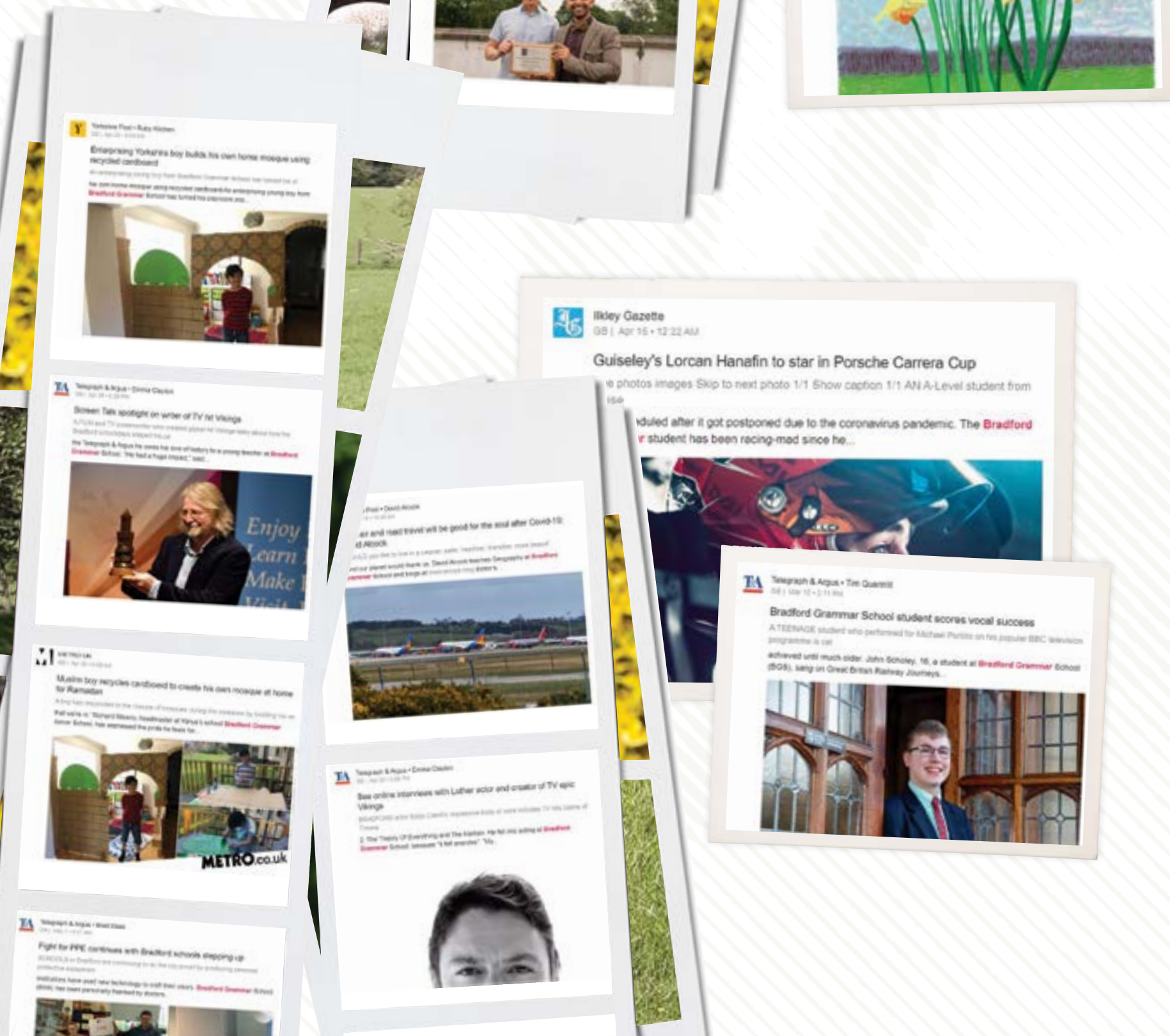
1 The Rodolfus Foundation's Virtual Choral Evensong.

2 & 3 Music lessons continue virtually thanks to Microsoft Teams.

BGS in the Press

Take a look at some of the
press coverage BGS has
received this term ...

VIEW THE BGS PRESS PORTFOLIO ...
<https://bit.ly/bgs-press-portfolio>

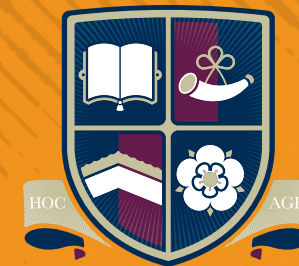


Junior

2022

HocAge

12 / 13

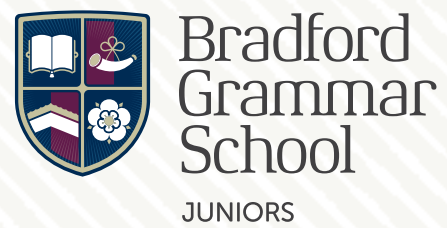


Bradford
Grammar
School
JUNIORS

SUMMER
2020

ART
LIFE
PE & SPORT





Welcome from the Junior School Headmaster

Palm tree or oak tree? The oak tree with its strong presence and imposing stance should surely be the most resilient tree.

However, spare a thought for the palm tree. In high winds it is in fact the palm tree which is more resilient. The palm tree has a flexible trunk and a deeper root system, which help it to flex in the wind and then recover once the high winds have calmed.

Our Clock House children, like the palm tree, have shown amazing resilience and adaptability this term. They have had to adapt to the demands of working in a new way and whilst there have been challenges, they have demonstrated qualities of determination, creativity, kindness and compassion. These are skills which will serve them well throughout life.

There has been so much to celebrate this term, from Lego phone chargers and lockdown diaries, to colourful rainbow displays and the fantastic VE Day celebrations. The children have been absolutely brilliant and I do hope you enjoy reading this edition of the 'Junior Hoc Age' magazine with them.

Richard Ribeiro

Mr Richard Ribeiro
Junior School Headmaster

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1

“...”
We now all realise that it was so much better at school ...

Everyone in Year 6 was wishing for school to close, so we could stay in bed longer, but now everyone is wanting to see friends again, go on the Year 6 residential, go back to normal life, do the end of year party and wear the end of year hoodies.

From my lockdown diary ...

Sunday 12 April 2020

Dear Diary, the last few weeks have been crazy. COVID-19 has made our school close, so we have been doing all of our work at home. At first, I felt worried but now I have got the hang of all of it. I have been keeping in touch with friends whilst we have been in lockdown and learnt that it is so much better to see friends in real life.

We now all realise that it was so much better at school, even with difficult lessons some days. I am grateful that Coronavirus is not affecting my family and I pray that it stays that way. We got locked down on the North Yorkshire coast. We were only coming here for the weekend but decided to stay until Monday because of school being closed and my parents' offices closing for people to work from home. The Prime Minister then told us all to stay home, save the NHS and save lives so we stayed at our little cottage by the North Sea. I feel lucky, as every day we see beautiful blue skies, pretty flowers, the glistening sea, and the loudly quacking ducks.

I have read one and a half books and am doing so many good things that I wouldn't normally. I have been exercising, cooking, baking, and I have even hoovered and ironed!

I miss my nana and grandad the most, but I love to see their faces on FaceTime most days. On a Saturday, we dress up a bit and have a little FaceTime party and my auntie and uncle join in too.

Today we went for a walk to Whitby. I used to complain at the thought of this walk but now I love it. I see the sea every day and I am ashamed to say, I feel guilty for saying, 'I'm just used to it now', but my mum keeps saying how lucky we are. We talked and walked and laughed! We ended up finding a little hut that sells hot chocolate and muffins. What a treat!

BY OLIVIA G, YEAR 6



2

Making Ramadan memorable

Hasan and his family made sure that Ramadan was still a memorable occasion during lockdown.

They kept busy doing lots of arts and crafts at home, to bring fun and excitement during this important time. This included decorating their house with bunting and paper baubles and making an advent calendar for Ramadan. This beautiful calendar included different envelopes with good deeds written in them for each day.

It was such a lovely idea, that an article about Hasan and his calendar appeared in the 'Asian Express' newspaper!

BY MRS MORLEY, JUNIOR SCHOOL ART TEACHER

Hoc Age

CAPTIONS

1 Olivia on the North Yorkshire coast.

2 Hasan made sure Ramadan was still a memorable occasion.



CAPTIONS
1 Ellie shows us her entry for the Paint Al's Wall Competition.



Brownlee mural competition

As part of the Paint Al's Wall Competition, the Brownlee Foundation asked KS2 primary school children to create a mural.

This is for Alistair Brownlee (who is also an Old Bradfordian) to paint on his garage wall so that when he is swimming in his mini swimming pool in his garage, he will feel more energised. I decided to make a piece of artwork that used paper stuck together to make different shapes.

To make my artwork, I started by finding lots of different shades of green paper. I had to make sure that the hills overlapped so it looked like one hill was further away than the other. Next, I found different shades of yellow and orange paper and one shade of red. These were for the sun and the sunset. I slid the sun under the two hills, so it looked like it was setting behind the hills. Finally, I added some sheep by drawing with a marker pen on some white paper then cutting them out in different sizes so that it looked like some sheep were further away than others.

I chose a sunset because it makes me feel calm and happy, and I hope it will make Alistair feel the same way too.

BY ELLIE S, YEAR 4

READ MORE ...
www.thebrownleefoundation.org/paint-als-wall



Creating 'Rainbows of Hope'

Many of our Clock House children have been following the national trend to create a 'Rainbow of Hope'.

Seeing these beautiful rainbows in windows sends a message of positivity to everyone and makes people smile. Here are some examples of the great artwork sent in during the school closure, including paintings, collages, 3D and computer designs. The paperchain rainbow on display in the Clock House reception was made by our keyworker children in school.

BY MRS MORLEY, JUNIOR SCHOOL ART TEACHER



Let the live music continue...

Music enthusiast and violist, Joseph (Year 5), recently took part in an online musical extravaganza in the form of virtual Benedetti Zoom sessions, along with around 200 other participants.

The Benedetti Foundation is an independent charity whose aim is to unite those who believe that music is integral to a great education. Their activity is funded through the generous donations of individuals, corporate sponsorship, trusts and foundations. They provide life changing experiences by staging mass musical events that transform the meaning of music making for all participants. Since the country went into lockdown, the Foundation has been hosting on-line tutorials and virtual sessions which Joseph has enjoyed.

“...”
Their uplifting performances have boosted moral ...

Joseph and his family have also been entertaining their neighbours with live music. Their uplifting performances have significantly boosted moral and have helped people to stay positive during the tricky lockdown period.

READ MORE ABOUT THE
BENEDETTI FOUNDATION ...
benedettifoundation.org



WATCH JOSEPH'S FINAL
PERFORMANCE ...
<https://bit.ly/benedetti-joseph>



VE Day challenge

Year 6 were challenged to make gas masks and design their own evacuee suitcases as part of their WWII topic. This tied in wonderfully with VE Day celebrations.



Flac Age

CAPTIONS
1 Music enthusiast, Joseph
2 George
3 Betsy
4 Amelie
5 Amelie's suitcase
6 & 7 Jess's suitcase



Shakespeare portrait proves a national winner

CAPTIONS
1 Katy loves art!
2 Katy's winning portrait of Shakespeare.
3 & 4 The House Music Competition – a fantastic day of music-making!

Back in March, Katy Hinchliffe won the Individual Entry Age 8 to 11 category in the Children's Shakespeare Portrait Competition and was awarded a prize of a family weekend away to Shakespeare's birthplace in Stratford. Her work will also be exhibited at the Lowry alongside other winners of the competition.

Katy said: 'I wanted to take part in the competition because I love art, it's one of my favourite subjects. I used chalk pastels and I just let my imagination run. I wanted to do a funky portrait because I wanted it to stand out, so I gave him blue hair. I was really excited when I heard I'd won.'

Sally Morley, Katy's art teacher encouraged all pupils to create their own portraits at home for the exciting competition.

She said: 'A lot of the children produced beautiful drawings and paintings and Katy used a different art medium which really made her portrait stand out. Each of the children came up with their own, distinct interpretations, which was great to see.'

Thousands of schoolchildren took part in the competition, run by the independent charity, Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, which was held as part of Shakespeare Week. More than 2,500 children from primary schools across the country entered the competition.

READ MORE ...
<http://bit.ly/shakespeare-comp-win>



House Music

What a fantastic day of music-making Clock House enjoyed at the annual House Music Competition, which took place on Thursday 19 March. It was a slightly different format from usual because we had no adjudicator or parents attending due to the increased concerns surrounding COVID-19.

However, despite this, we all had a wonderful day, with Clock House pupils showing outstanding spirit and determination, performing music to their friends. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed watching each other perform and it was great to see the children supporting each other! A large number of pupils entered the competition and performed music on a wide variety of musical instruments, including the clarinet, trumpet and cello, to name a few. Each pupil received house points for entering and the winning house this year was Founders.

BY MRS ALDERSON



People who changed our world – Florence Nightingale

Before COVID-19, the world has witnessed many other events that have changed the way people live. As part of their topic, 'People who changed our world', on 11 March, Year 2 pupils travelled back in time to meet Miss Florence Nightingale, as she prepared to travel to Scutari to help the soldiers wounded while fighting in the Crimean War.



Miss Smith reflects upon the trip: 'Miss Nightingale greeted us at Lotherton Hall near Leeds, the home of her cousins, the Gascoignes. After politely welcoming us, Miss Nightingale set them to work. Firstly, we attended the Nurses' Teddy Bear Training Hospital. There we learnt the basic skills a Nightingale Nurse needs to know, and under the watchful eye of the head nurse, we honed our bandaging skills. Following that, we helped the lady herself pack her trunk ready for the thirteen-day journey. Even then, PPE was essential with an apron, sleeve covers, soap and a nail brush all being carefully stowed.'

'After waving Florence a fond good luck and goodbye, we were transported back to the present day; we visited Wildlife World, where an escapologist penguin was the centre of attention. Who would have thought that a few months later, we all would be reading how Florence is still making her mark today with the 'pop-up' hospitals around the country being named after her? She really did change our world.'

BY MISS SMITH

Flac Age

18 / 19

Juniors

Netball Success

It was a long journey to get to Hymers (in Hull) and upon arrival, we were split into our A and B teams.

There were 24 teams, all HMC schools from the North of the country. The 'waterfall' tournament meant that initially all the teams were randomly placed in a group of six to play in a league format with the top two teams then going into the Tier 1 competition, the next two into Tier 2 and the fifth and sixth placed Tier 3.

For our first match, we beat Ackworth A, giving us a big confidence boost to win the next game against Bronte House B. The third match was a draw against Hymers A.

Following another win against RGS Newcastle, we lost against Ashville A team. The B team played against some tough A teams from Hull, Bronte House and Bow School as well as the B team from GSAL. They played well and learned a lot.

“...”
... everyone represented
Clock House with
great spirit.

We then had to wait to find out which Tier of the competition the A team would go into based on goal difference. Having been put into the Tier 2 competition, we were then in a knock-out situation. We went on to win all our matches, beating St Olaves in the final; we then received the Bowl trophy!

Ashville won the cup, having had their closest game of the day against us.

Mrs Jones was extremely proud of both teams – the B team also went on to have success in the second half of the day and everyone represented Clock House with great spirit.

BY LUCY, BETSY AND JESS B

CAPTIONS
1 & 2 Year 2 pupils travelled back in time to meet Miss Florence Nightingale.
3 & 4 The Clock House netballers gave it their all.



Sporting enthusiasts from a distance

Staying active and healthy are especially important during this period for our pupils.

Many pupils and families have been addressing this need by going for family walks, runs and bike rides. To add extra motivation, and with help from the PE department, Mrs Jones has been providing daily PE challenges for the pupils to engage in.

It has been lovely to see so many of our pupils engaging with these challenges in such a positive way and sending in photographs and videos of their work.

“...”
It has been lovely to see so many of our pupils engaging with these challenges ...

The following two children from Year 5 have particularly embraced these challenges:

LIZZIE P

Which school sports do you enjoy doing when in school?
Hockey, cricket, swimming, netball (all of them really!)

What do you enjoy the most about school sport?
Running around and having fun with my friends. I like learning and developing new skills.

What have you missed about school sport whilst in lockdown?
Playing the fixtures and laughing with the teachers.

Have you enjoyed the daily challenges Mrs Jones has been setting?
Yes; they were fun and they help to keep me fit.

Which ones have you enjoyed the most?
The obstacle course challenge because it was fun and I got to race (and beat) my brother.

How have the daily challenges motivated you to stay active?
It has given me a good reason to go outside and run around, rather than being on the computer all day.

HARRY D

Which school sports do you enjoy doing when in school?
Hockey, rugby and badminton.

What do you enjoy the most about school sport?
It gives me time off from classes and I like to play all kinds of sports.

What have you missed about school sport whilst in lockdown?
Being able to play sports with my school friends.

Have you enjoyed the daily challenges Mrs Jones has been setting?
Yes, I've enjoyed doing something outside and away from my computer.

Which ones have you enjoyed the most/found the most challenging?
The endurance challenge was challenging because it made me very tired, and I enjoyed the ball skills using the basketball the most.

How have the daily challenges motivated you to stay active?
They allowed me to try things that I haven't tried before.

National NHS bike initiative

Two enterprising friends who went to BGS are helping NHS and other essential workers secure bikes to travel safely as part of a national campaign.

Lucy Wellings, a nurse working on London's COVID-19 hospital wards, and friend Charlotte Sumner-Bedford, are Old Bradfordians. The pair are running the Tour De Thanks scheme, where they encourage people to donate or lend much-needed bikes to NHS staff and other key workers.

The campaign was launched when Lucy had her bike stolen. The 28-year-old, who normally works as a paediatric and adolescent research nurse specialist at University College London Hospital, had been reassigned to a COVID ward and needed her bike to get to work.

The nurse eventually tracked down her stolen bike, which was being sold online, but the experience made her realise how reliant she and her colleagues were on bikes as safe modes of transport during the pandemic.

'When I had my bike stolen, lots of people offered to help me by either lending me or giving me a bike. It made me think there must be more people in my situation,' said Lucy, whose family still live in Addingham, near Ilkley, and whose grandfather, Jack Sanderson, is a previous headmaster of BGS.

'A lot of people don't have cars in London, and we've seen a surge in demand since lockdown restrictions have eased. NHS and other essential workers are even more worried about using public transport for their commute, so we're in great need of bike donations.

'We've had people from across the country come forward and donate bikes. There's only so much we can do, so they post their photos and we try and match people up via social media. It's overwhelming how supportive people have been, including many from the Old Bradfordian community.'

Lucy's school friend, Charlotte, was keen to help after being furloughed from her work as assistant manager at Albert Hall in Manchester. She created some artwork for Tour De Thanks and does most of the day-to-day connecting of people and bikes via Twitter and Instagram. The friends have so far managed to secure around 40 bikes for people from across the country, including several at Lucy's former workplace, Leeds General Infirmary. The iconic cycling brand, Brompton, has also donated 30 bikes to the cause.



OB makes almost 100 visors for NHS staff

An Old Bradfordian has been thanked by grateful NHS staff after making almost 100 visors on his 3D printer.

Joseph Hill, originally from Brighthouse, is studying electronic and computer engineering at Brighton University, and initially wanted to help his mum and her NHS work colleagues have access to comfortable PPE equipment.

Joseph has had a 3D printer for more than two years and said he had seen the amazing things it could create.

He said: 'I'd been looking for a way to help people by using it and I was initially looking for a way to help my mum and a few colleagues.

'I was really shocked when I found out about the shortage of PPE, even for the doctors and nurses on intensive care units, and I wanted to help. After the first few, I was asked if I could make more, so I started printing all day and night.'

READ MORE ...
<https://bit.ly/joseph-hill>



CAPTIONS

- 1 Lucy Wellings (Class of 2009)
- 2 Charlotte Sumner-Bedford (Class of 2010)
- 3 Joseph Hill (Class of 2017)



CAPTIONS
1 Pippa in Year 11 is just one of the volunteers who stepped forward to chat to our OBs.
2 Michael Groth (Class of 1971)



BGS Befriending scheme

Following a successful pilot in the immediate wake of lockdown, the Development & Old Bradfordians’ Office enlisted the help of 12 trained volunteers to reach out to self-isolating and vulnerable Old Bradfordians.

With those over 70 most impacted by the current crisis, we wanted to support our community in the same way that it has always supported school and alleviate some of the loneliness this group in particular may be experiencing at the present time.

The BGS family has once again proven itself just that, with pupils, teaching staff and parents stepping forward to offer help. Volunteers are now taking to the phones to chat to OBs, share stories, offer practical support, and stay connected. Those who have received calls have spoken of how ‘really rather amazed’ they were to receive a call, and their enjoyment is matched by the callers themselves, who are enjoying learning about what school was like in the 40s and 50s! More than 150 Old Bradfordians received calls during a four week period, as part of a wider programme of support for the Old Bradfordian community, which includes streamed school productions, careers support, and the launch of a brand new business network.

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the Befriending initiative – the first to be piloted in the school sector and the only scheme on this scale in the north of England.

A song for the NHS

Michael Groth; Old Bradfordian, TV presenter and musician, has kept himself busy during lockdown by writing and performing a song for our frontline workers. Titled, ‘Strong Enough’, Michael wanted to express his thanks to the NHS and also help to raise some money.

Michael, who used to present the TV show ‘That’s Life’ with Esther Rantzen said: ‘I created the video because I was, like most of us, really moved by the bravery, devotion and caring of all the nurses and key workers battling on the frontline of the health and care services. To see how many were losing their lives, I felt we as a country were failing them – there was a lack of PPE and support.’



“...”

I was, like most of us, really moved by the bravery, devotion and caring of all the nurses and key workers ...

The song features different vocal treatments to switch between a patient and a nurse.

Michael added: ‘I tried to offer a degree of hope with the line ‘nothing lasts forever, nothing lasts for long’ and convey the need for strength from both the health workers and from the public to beat this dreadful disease.’

As well as sharing his song, Michael is raising money for the NHS with the money generated from purchases.

VIEW MICHAEL’S SONG ON YOUTUBE ...
<https://bit.ly/michael-groth>



DOWNLOAD THE SONG ...
<https://bit.ly/strong-enough-download>



Health staff thank BGS for making vital PPE equipment

Doctors and health workers have thanked BGS for making personal protective equipment (PPE) for its frontline staff during the COVID-19 pandemic. We have been supplying care homes, GP practices, hospitals and optometrists with the vital equipment, which is needed because of a lack of available protective shields.

Visors have been specially made on a 3D printer and 3D laser cutter in the DT department by DT technician, Roger Burton. Among the recipients are medical practices and care homes across Yorkshire and hospitals in Leeds and Glasgow, with requests for new equipment coming in daily.

READ MORE ...
<https://bit.ly/ppe-thanks>



Hloc Age



BGS help with food donations and distributions

Surplus food including apples, potatoes, peppers, salad and bananas, plus a collection of Easter Eggs were donated to the Bradford Central Foodbank in late March by our Executive Chef, Dean Winter.

The Foodbank, who help to feed Bradford families in crisis, do an amazing job of delivering packages to the vulnerable and those isolating during this challenging time, so Dean and his team were delighted to be able to help by donating excess food supplies.

Students have also been helping in the community with food distributions. Year 8 student Arooj has been distributing food and gifts to the vulnerable as part of the COVID-19 charity response team. The team are donating to families during lockdown who are struggling in the month of Ramadan and as Eid is around the corner, Arooj is currently putting together parcels of toys and treats for children in these struggling families during these difficult times.



CAPTIONS
1-3 BGS has made and donated PPE to frontline staff.
4 & 5 Surplus food was donated to the Bradford Central Foodbank.
6 Arooj in Year 8 is part of the COVID-19 charity response team.

Staff Voices



'Our students have a lot to give ...'

It's very rewarding helping to do things for other people and I'm keen to encourage our students to do that. Every student in Years 12 and 13 has a login to register to volunteer on vInspired. We currently have 140 volunteers in Year 12 alone; they completed 1,577 hours of volunteering between them from September to March.

Andy Crabtree

Assistant Head of Sixth Form Enrichment

We've developed a lot of good links with local organisations. Every September, organisations such as Age UK come and present what they do and what the students can get involved with at the volunteering fair which is held in school. Every Wednesday afternoon, for example, we have older people come in to see us, such as Jean who's nearly 90, and we talk about history, about Bradford and its people and we work with the iPads and get the students helping them with apps. Bevan House is also a good one for students to get involved in, it's a healthcare organisation and they run an after-school club for the children of refugees. Others go across to Clock House to volunteer, help with our sports department, or read to children at Frizinghall Primary School.

We have awards for volunteering so they can achieve a V10 (hours) and ones for 30, 50 and 100. We try and find as many ways we can help people as possible. BGS has a good reputation for working in the community. The students learn a great deal from it. They can develop their skills and it's good to get them involved in working with other people. They can also add it to their UCAS personal statement or use it towards the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award, which requires them to volunteer an hour a week for 18 months.

A lot of our students are keen to give back in some way in line with the school motto, Hoc Age, which means 'get on and do'. It's nice to hear from organisations when they give positive feedback saying how great our students are and how much they appreciate what they do. They're really happy to provide references for students.

It's good when you see how they mature as a result of volunteering. They have a lot to give to others and it's great to see.



Jo Rutter

School Counsellor

'We can't control the storms of life ...'

My first dilemma when school closed on 20 March was how best to support the existing students that I was seeing.

I'm not experienced in telephone or online counselling, and so began a steep learning curve for me. Fortunately, The BACP (British Association of Counsellors & Psychotherapists) provided support and advice for counsellors finding themselves in a new and unprecedented situation where they were no longer able to see their clients face to face. I soon entered the unfamiliar territory of online training and webinars, which gave me all the information I needed. I've also learnt how to access my school desktop virtually and have been attending online team meetings via Microsoft Teams. Most of my students were happy to move to telephone counselling and I am video calling those who prefer it. It has all worked out surprisingly well. I was previously a bit cynical about online counselling, but I am fast becoming a convert! All in all, lockdown has presented me with a golden opportunity to learn to be flexible and adapt to changing circumstances.

I've been spending time in the garden, planting flowers and growing vegetables from seed. We have been using Zoom to connect with family and friends, having family quizzes and discussing books with my book club friends.

The most challenging part of lockdown for me has, however, been the loss of my beloved mum, who died of cancer last month, in a hospice in Sheffield. I was able to be with her at the end and have drawn strength from her example – she was a very strong and inspirational lady, who believed that 'life is for living'. In these strange times of adversity, it is not about waiting for the storm to pass, but rather learning to dance in the rain. We can't control the storms of life, but we do have control over the way we choose to respond to them.

It is the difficult and challenging periods of our life that shape us as people and allow us to develop grit, resilience, and personal strength. I hope we can all find ways of turning our negative experiences of lockdown into positives – by focusing on the many things we have gained from the current situation, rather than what we may have lost or be missing out on.

Jo is currently working from home and is available to support students that might be struggling, as are our school nurses Sally and Kelly.

Details of how to contact them can be found on page nine of your school planners.

“...”
It is the difficult and challenging periods of our life that shape us ...

In lockdown life, I've been trying to practise what I preach by getting up at the same time every day and keeping to a routine. I've been eating well, sleeping well and drinking plenty of water (as well as the odd glass of wine in the evening!) I've been exercising daily, running, walking and doing yoga. I've also been using The Smiling Mind & Headspace Apps to do a daily mindfulness meditation which I highly recommend. I'm really missing my early morning swims in the BGS pool, but have

'Pupils have adapted and shown resilience beyond belief ...'



'You do know the speaker isn't turned on?' comments my daughter as I shriek, 'Year 12, can you hear me?' down the microphone for the tenth time. Year 12 had been kindly telling me that yes, they could hear me, but I couldn't hear them for the last five minutes!

It has been a steep learning curve adapting to remote teaching. I miss the pupils. I miss their energy; I miss their humour and I miss seeing the smiles as they finally crack something difficult. I have found it hard not saying a proper goodbye to my lovely Year 11 and Year 13 classes and I have had sleepless nights over grades. I am getting a cricked neck from marking slightly out of focus sideways photos – why do they never upload the right way up?!

But there have also been some remarkable positives. The pupils have adapted and shown resilience beyond belief. My IT skills have improved immensely, helped by the amazing support of colleagues. I have learnt about the joys of emojis – who knew there was such a choice?!

“...”

... we discovered footpaths we never knew existed, despite them being on our doorstep ...

I have been able to spend time in the sunshine with my own children. We have enjoyed the challenges from the Sport Department – doing strength and conditioning routines (or having a go at any rate!) with my daughter and running with my 15 year old son, means I am the fittest I have been in a long while. The children have been improving their baking skills – thanks to our Executive Chef, Dean for some great 'BGS Kitchen' recipes, although his helpers always seem to be out of pyjamas. I could use some advice on how he achieves that!

Once dressed, we have discovered footpaths we never knew existed, despite them being on our doorstep, and we have seen a lot of lambs. In a time that is so hard for very many people, I am grateful that we are in good health and that we live in such a glorious part of the country. Once we are out of lockdown and back to the usual pace of life, I hope we remember how much we have enjoyed some of life's simple pleasures. And, if you see me with a slightly wonky neck then you know why!

BY SARAH FLAHERTY, HEAD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAREERS

This year's BGS Netball Parents' Association Annual Fashion Show took place on Friday 13 and Saturday 14 March and had the theme of 'Through the Decades'.

Annual Fashion Show



The use of popular music, a creative stage setting and imaginative table decor, kindly created by 'Your Event Solutions', carried the audience on a journey from the 1960s right through to the current day. Our Year 12 and 13 student 'models' showcased merchandise from local retailers, and there were even some appearances from our Year 5 and 6 Clock House children.

“...”

A fun filled night was had by all and we would like to extend a huge thank you to all involved ...



It was brilliant to see how enthusiastic and eager the students, parents, retailers and staff were to get involved, and even better to have raised money for Brain Research UK and Tabby's Trust.



A fun filled night was had by all and we would like to extend a huge thank you to all who were involved in making the show the success that it was.



Keeping in touch with our new Year 7 pupils

Nothing could stop our new Year 7 pupils from keeping in touch with us and showing off their various talents during the lockdown period.

We set regular quizzes, competitions and activities for our new boys and girls to get involved with and they did just that ... and in large numbers!

It was heartening for us to see just what our new pupils were doing to help pass the time during lockdown. Many made us smile, some made us sad, but all reinforced what we already knew – that we have some talented and enthusiastic young people about to join the BGS community. The spirit of 'Hoc Age' can definitely be attributed to this new year group!

Shown here is a montage of just a few of the items that came our way. Apologies if we have missed off some pieces of work, we were unable to show everything, but hopefully those that are not featured here were seen via our social media accounts!