

SUMMER  
2021

CHALLENGE 03-06  
ARTS 06-08  
JUNIORS 09-16  
COMMUNITY 17-19  
LIFE 19-20



Bradford  
Grammar  
School

# Hac Age

Feature

Meet our  
codebreaking  
cyber  
superstars!



CONTINUED ON PAGE 03

Four codebreaking BGS pupils beat more than 6,500 other girls to compete in the finals of a national cybersecurity competition ...





# Welcome from the Headmaster

Never has our School motto seemed so apposite.

Hoc Age, translated literally as 'DO THIS!', and alive with powerful encouragements to 'get on with it' has been something of a bluff guiding mantra as the pandemic has worn on. During the course of the past term and academic year we have rolled our sleeves up, no fuss, no nonsense, put the effort in, supported each other and done our best.

The resilience, focus and good nature of our young people has been astonishing. With the guidance and support of BGS staff and parents they have kept going, even under periods of intense pressure. The weight on public exam cohorts, now awaiting Teacher Assessed Grades, has been acute. And yet, once again and through it all, learning has been lively, clubs and societies have thrived, classics and cyber challenges have been mastered, rugby players have been selected to represent Yorkshire and teams of runners have shown the best of BGS in national competition –



and these are mere surface-scratching examples of what we have been up to in recent weeks.

As the holiday approaches we can be deeply proud of our whole school family and the spirit we have shown. These pages attest to all this and more. I hope you enjoy what follows.

Simon Hinchliffe

Dr Simon Hinchliffe

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 01

“...”

It's inspiring to see girls up and down the country engaging in the competition with such enthusiasm and skill, and we hope many will consider taking their interest in cybersecurity further.

Bradford Grammar School Year 8 students Ruqaiyah A, Eliza S, Eloise B, and Fiona L, won through to the CyberFirst Girls final as North of England champions following the fast-paced semi-finals.

The girls worked hard all day solving online puzzles about logic and coding, networking, cybersecurity and cryptography.

Christine Harvey, Head of Computer Science, said: 'BGS had entered this competition for the past three years and had never got to the semi-finals, so the girls did amazingly well. The semis were fun but challenging, with the top place on the leader board changing several times in the last few minutes. It was very exciting to win the semi-final and to represent the North of England at the national final. On finals day, we just missed out on a top position despite the girl's teamwork and determination.'



The competition was run by the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), part of GCHQ. Now in its fifth year, the competition aims to inspire girls to pursue their interests in technology and consider a career in cybersecurity.

Chris Ensor, NCSC Deputy Director for Cyber Growth, said: 'It's inspiring to see girls up and down the country engaging in the competition with such enthusiasm and skill, and we hope many will consider taking their interest in cybersecurity further.'



### CAPTIONS

1-2 Ruqaiyah, Fiona, Eloise and Eliza are the 2021 North of England CyberFirst Girls champions  
3 George, Obi and Ed have enjoyed being part of the U18 Yorkshire Rugby Academy squad

## BGS trio enjoy Yorkshire Rugby Academy season

Three BGS senior rugby players have enjoyed being part of the U18 Yorkshire Rugby Academy squad during the pandemic.

Obi E, Ed H and George G were allowed to continue playing with the academy, after the RFU confirmed all Premiership academy players could continue training during lockdown under elite sport exemption.

Head of BGS Rugby, Dan Scarbrough, said: 'It's been a very tough year for

the promising group of senior rugby players at Bradford Grammar by not being able to fulfil their ambition to represent the school in their final year. But well done to Obi, Ed and George for continuing their development with The Yorkshire Academy.'

The boys played matches in the Academy League against other Premiership academies including Wasps, Leicester Tigers, Sale Sharks and Newcastle Falcons across weekends throughout May.

READ THE FULL STORY ...  
<http://bit.ly/yorkshirerugbyacademy>







## Victory for BGS Barristers in the 2021 Schools' Mock Trial Competition

“...”

Their victory against Cardinal Newman College means that BGS retain their competition crown and are 2021 champions.

Thanks to a team of Year 12 students, a man charged with causing injury while dancing over-enthusiastically in a night-club just before lockdown has been acquitted; a celebrity graffiti-artist has walked free from charges of vandalism; and a Bradford student has been found guilty of theft, despite pleading that her sheltered upbringing on a Scottish island did not prepare her for shopping in the big city.

Admittedly, these were all fictitious court cases, created by the Law Faculty at the University of Bradford for the 2021 Schools' Mock Trial Competition; but, by acting as advocates in these cases, our students progressed through the rounds to the final, presided over by HHJ Jonathan Rose.

Their victory against Cardinal Newman College means that BGS retain their competition crown and are 2021 champions. It may not be long before Fraz A, Harry B, Grace D, Courtney E-S, Alex F, Jasmine M, and Muskan R are advocates in real, not mock, trials.

BY J REESON, TEACHER OF CLASSICS



### Year 10 Tug of War Tournament

Since our return to School in March, Year 10 pupils have developed a new routine on Tuesday lunchtimes, cooked dinner then war (tug of war to be precise).

What started as a fun way to socialise and reconnect with their peers, quickly became a heated competition in which the form tutors were as keen to be as victorious as their tutees.

Over the course of four weeks, 10EEM romped to victory while 10JER were left with the inaugural wooden spoon. During week five 10EEM took on 'the best of the rest' and were finally defeated.

The greatest excitement was left until Tuesday 11 May when each form took on the staff team, which included the Headmaster. The staff showed they were just as competitive as the pupils and were undefeated. As one Year 10 pupil remarked on one Tuesday lunch; 'It's all a bit random, Miss. But I like it!'

BY E GREAVES, HEAD OF YEAR 10



“...”

Massive kudos must go to the girls: they truly deserve it ...

## There's no stopping our BGS cross country runners

Our BGS runners have experienced some outstanding success recently. As is well known, school sport has been greatly reduced of late, but the organisers of the English Schools' Cross Country Championships have been proactive in promoting a virtual version.

For Years 8 and 9 this was over a distance of 2km, and for the older age groups, the distance was 5km. In the senior boys' race Alex F was an impressive 11th overall and Ben H placed 13th in the intermediate boys' category.

Not to be outdone, the intermediate girls placed two in the top ten in the individual race. Amelie L was fifth and Rebecca F was not far behind in ninth.

In the team event, the BGS girls really excelled. Incredibly, the West Yorkshire team that was placed the fourth county in England, consisted entirely of BGS pupils. In addition to Amelie and Rebecca, Emily G, Carla B, Elsa F, and Serena K

completed the six who counted for the team standings.

Cross country coach, Mike McCartney said, 'This is staggering. I've been involved in the sport for a long time now, and I've been racking my brains trying to think of a precedent. Maybe there isn't one? Massive kudos must go to the girls: they truly deserve it for continuing to put in the hard work over the last twelve months.'

BY M MCCARTNEY, CROSS COUNTRY COACH

#### CAPTIONS

1 BGS retained their competition crown at this year's Schools' Mock Trial Competition

2-3 Staff and pupils alike enjoyed taking part in the Year 10 tug of war tournament

4 The West Yorkshire cross country team placed fourth in the English Schools' Cross Country Championships, and consisted entirely of BGS pupils: Serena, Elsa, Rebecca, Carla, Emily and Amelia



# BGS netball captain's double success!

## CAPTIONS

1 Sixth form student Eva has recently been named captain for the Leeds Rhinos Netball Academy U19 squad

Eva L, our BGS Netball Club captain works tirelessly (even throughout lockdown) to maintain her netball skill and fitness levels. And the results have paid off as not only has she been selected to play for the Leeds Rhinos Netball Academy U19 squad, but she has also been named captain for the side. This is a tremendous achievement and one that we are all very proud of.

During lockdown, our younger girls were lucky enough to experience a virtual Q&A session with Eva. Many questioned what it takes to play high-level netball and Eva managed to stir some real excitement and determination amongst our youngsters to pursue their netball journey.

Eva has managed to balance her netball alongside passing her umpiring, coaching and lifeguarding qualifications, passing her Grade 8 exam in saxophone, juggling three A Levels and applying to university. She is an inspiration to us all and fully embodies the BGS 'Hoc Age' motto.

Congratulations Eva, we are all so proud of you.

BY A SMITH, SPECIALIST SPORTS COACH – NETBALL



## BGS compete in Durham University's virtual debating competition

On Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 March, the BGS Debating Society entered Durham University's first (and hopefully only) virtual debating competition, in which close to 500 participants from schools around the country competed.

Motions on fair-trade, politicians on social media, 'doxxing' and more kept our teams busy throughout the weekend. Our pupils – many of whom were novices – did a fine job representing the School but missed out on breaking to the semi-finals on Sunday afternoon.

There were a few personal successes in the form of Harry B and Fred A, Anuli O and Emma D, and Tom O and Ben A, who managed to place first in one of their in-rounds.

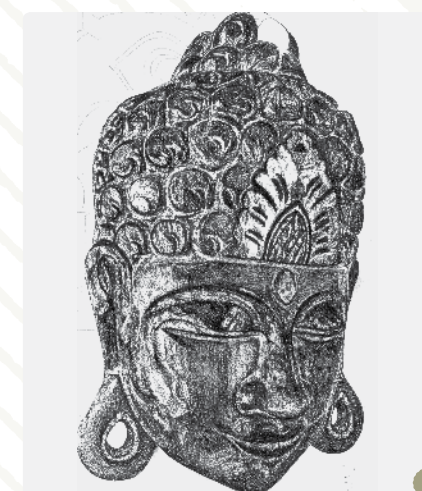
A special mention should also go to Moazzam N, who brand new to debating, competed as an 'ironman' in his first ever round. We are all keeping our fingers crossed for a return to in-person debating competitions next year!

BY S SEAGER, TEACHER OF ENGLISH

Arts

## Artists of the term ...

- 1 Charity C, Year 10
- 2 Charlie H, Year 10
- 3 Lara T, Year 9
- 4 Carla B, Year 10
- 5 Amelia B, Year 10
- 6 Zara B, Year 10
- 7 Amelie B, Year 10
- 8 Annabel P, Year 10
- 9 Ronald G, Year 10
- 10 Martha J, Year 9
- 11 Elizabeth S, Year 7
- 12 Sophie L-S, Year 8







“...”

I have been approached by many members of staff declaring how wonderful it is to hear music once again ...

Joking aside, I have been struck by the enthusiasm of the pupils and desperation (for want of a better word!) to get our large ensembles up and running again. After rehearsals in the Price Hall, echoing around the School, I have been approached by many members of staff declaring how wonderful it is to hear music once again. We now have every instrumental music group up and running from pre-COVID times and our two largest choirs. Thank you to the staff who have made these rehearsals happen.

Our Leavers’ Recital moved online this year, and featured soloists from our Year 13 cohort. We have also created online Friday lunchtime recitals, one of which was from the Interact Club, all skilfully edited together by Mr Stokes, our Music Graduate. Congratulations must also go out to our many students who have completed digital music exams this term. Well done all.

In the summer we will bid a fond farewell to Mr Oliver Stokes, our Music Graduate. I cannot do him justice in this short article but to say he has transformed our department is an understatement. He has been responsible for all our digital content during COVID times and he has videoed and edited hours of lunchtime recitals, music exams, Year 10 performance exams, A Level recitals, Chamber Concerts and our Leavers’ Recital. He will be missed by pupils and staff alike. We wish

him all the best as he goes to Manchester to train to be a music teacher. Thank you for everything you have done in the department, Mr Stokes!

Looking to the future, we feel excited about a hopeful return to normality in September. The choirs are already rehearsing hard for Founders’ Day in September, and we are in the early stages of planning for our whole-school musical. Watch this space!

BY E WHITE, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

## Music roundup

CAPTIONS  
1-3 Our Leavers’  
Concert went virtual  
this year and featured  
soloists from our  
Year 13 cohort

This term we have worked hard in the Music Department building up and starting our ensembles again – students have shown great resilience as we disrupt our usual schedule of activities and find COVID secure spaces. It’s been quite a challenge! We’ve had Orchestra and Concert Band rehearsals in the Price Hall, Choir in the Hockney Theatre and various other ensembles in the Music Department. It really has been like a game of musical chairs!

# Junior Leavers



Bradford  
Grammar  
School

JUNIORS

SUMMER  
2021

EVENTS  
VISITS  
LIFE







# Welcome from the Junior School Headmaster

This has been a year like no other! One of the challenges facing schools during the recent pandemic ...

... has been to find ways to continue to deliver breadth and depth in the curriculum, offering children rich learning opportunities.

The Clock House teachers have worked diligently to ensure that the core learning foundations have remained in place and that the educational diet has continued to be broad, challenging and exciting for our children.

Children in Clock House have responded brilliantly: engaging positively with their learning experiences, they have continued to demonstrate the values, attitudes and mindsets we seek to promote and develop at Bradford Grammar School.

There have been many wonderful achievements and successes in School this term. I do hope you enjoy reading about them in this Junior section of 'Hoc Age'.

*Richard Ribeiro*

Mr Richard Ribeiro  
Junior School Headmaster

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## Brothers hit the high note with National Children's Orchestra

Clock House brother's Joseph and Oliver are enjoying sessions with the National Children's Orchestras of Great Britain's first ever digital programme and are looking forward to being part of a national live stream event on 1 July.

Joseph, who plays viola in the Under 12 orchestra, and Oliver, who plays double bass in the Under 10 orchestra, attend the course via a specially created website where there are musical activities online managed by more than 80 freelance professionals. It entails taking part in online sectionals every Sunday and online sessions covering different aspects of playing throughout the week.

The programme has also focused on the health and wellbeing aspects to playing a musical instrument, with Henry Cookey, Olympic Taekwondo athlete doing exercise sessions with them. Meanwhile the brothers have also enjoyed the Composing for Film sessions with Aardman productions and have learnt how to set their own music to a film score.

The main instrumental sessions have focused on playing various orchestral extracts and practising their parts for On The Move, a special composition by the whole NCOGB orchestra. Once they've recorded all five movements, they will be added with everyone else's videos to create a live stream on YouTube broadcast on 1 July, which will share some of the events and engagement that has happened over the 15 weeks.

Joseph said: 'There are so many resources for us to take part in which are lots of fun. When I'm playing with the recording it feels like I'm playing with the whole orchestra, which is amazing. I really enjoyed making the soundtrack with Aardman because we got to improvise, and I love Wallace and Gromit! These social sessions have really helped me to stay happy with a smile on my face.'

Oliver added: 'It's nice to do the National Children's Orchestra in the same room as Joseph. It's really strange because I feel like I'm in an orchestra but if I look around, I'm in the sitting room! I like the social sessions because I can show off my juggling.'

The brothers are hoping to be able to audition to take part in live events next year.

“...”

When I'm playing with the recording it feels like I'm playing with the whole orchestra, which is amazing.

Hoc Age

10 / 11

Juniors

### CAPTIONS

1 Joseph and Oliver are enjoying partaking in sessions with the National Children's Orchestras of Great Britain

SEP/OCT

16 September  
Autumn social evening event  
21 September  
Founders' Day  
2 October  
Open Day  
7 October  
National Poetry Day  
20 October  
Harvest Day  
Non-uniform Day

NOV/DEC

9 November  
Open Morning  
22 November  
Assessment week  
2 December  
Secret Santa event  
(Years 2, 3 and 4)  
3 December  
Secret Santa event  
(Years 5 and 6)  
7- 8 December  
Parent consultations  
16 December  
Christmas Concert

\*Events may be subject to change





# Clock House pupils plant seeds in remembrance

Earlier this term, Clock House pupils planted seeds as part of the Commonwealth War Graves Foundation project, 'Plant wildflowers in remembrance'. Elizabeth Smith from the foundation visited School on 23 June to talk to the pupils about the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and answered any questions that the pupils had. It was a great assembly with lots of valuable knowledge shared. Once the wildflowers have bloomed, we hope to hold a dedication ceremony for all the Old Bradfordians who fought in the war.

Alongside this, the OBA Committee and Development & Old Bradfordians' Office are running a 'Gone but not forgotten' project, where artefacts, photos and other memorabilia are being collected from relatives of Old Bradfordians who fought in the Second World War. This information is being stored at School for future generations to see and is a wonderful way to keep their stories alive. We are excited to be able to share these memories of our Old Bradfordians with Clock House pupils.

## Discovering the Outdoors

This term, Clock House pupils have been lucky enough to partake in a range of outdoor bushcraft sessions, delivered by Pennine Bushcraft. The idea of the sessions was to share with one another a love of, and passion for, outdoor learning.

Pupils explored team building, fire building and foraging as part of their sessions and thoroughly enjoyed being at one with nature.

The sessions allowed pupils the opportunity to learn more about the natural world and also equipped them with lifelong survival tips and skills.

Each class was fortunate enough to enjoy two sessions with Josh Hemingway who was introduced to the natural world himself as a young boy by his Dad, who taught him how to recognise trees by their bark, and birds by their calls.

We wonder if some of our young pupils may go on to enjoy careers in the outdoors!

BY L MARSDEN, YEAR 4 TEACHER

## Anglo-Saxon Workshop

Earlier in the summer term, Year 4 were treated to a fantastic Anglo-Saxon workshop delivered by an educational company called Dantastic, providing pupils with a perfect hook for their new topic.

Activities included using historically accurate items, props, video presentations and group discussions. Some of the favourite topics experienced were 'Anglo-Saxon Warriors', 'Conquering of Britain' and 'Looking at Historical Weapons'. Handling the artefacts proved very exciting and after the workshop, pupils came up with so many questions as a result, which directed their learning. Dantastic said: 'Bringing history to life from a young age will help every child to retain a love for learning throughout their future school years.'

We look forward to potentially welcoming Dantastic in the future and offering pupils more practical opportunities to learn about the past.

BY L MARSDEN AND K ATKINSON, YEAR 4 TEACHERS

# 'The sports facilities are incredible ...'

## A Day in the Life of a Year 6 pupil – Lizzie

'I get on the school bus each morning with my brother who is in Year 8. We get to school at around 8.20am, then I walk to the Clock House playground, where we can play for a bit before we line up and go to our classrooms. I sometimes wait for my friends who come on a different bus and we walk up together, but I sometimes just go straight to the playground as there is always someone to play with.

At first I was worried about getting on the bus with the older boys and girls, but I soon realised it was actually fun – some of my friends that I have out of school and who are in different year groups get on the same bus, so I spend most of the journey chatting!

I joined Clock House in Year 4, and I was nervous at first – I thought it might be hard to make new friends, but I couldn't have been more wrong! There were other children who also joined in the same year and everyone was so friendly and kind, so I soon settled in. Everyone – the teachers and pupils are really lovely. We are like a big family!

When we go into school, we go to our classrooms for registration. There are a few tasks each morning written on the whiteboard, such as catching up on a piece of work. Mrs Green, my form teacher is so nice and kind. She takes us for most of our subjects, and she explains things really well – I like how she builds up the level of work gradually to make sure we all understand.



I enjoy most of my subjects, but my real passion is sport. The sports facilities at school are incredible, and we've great coaches to support us. At lunchtime, I like to play netball with my best friend in the playground and on alternate Mondays, I play hockey. I also do after-school clubs for netball and cricket. I really love cricket – it's my favourite sport, and I'm getting better the more I practise.

“...”  
I'm excited to move to the Senior School next year ...

My brother gave me one of his old cricket bats when I was five and since then, I've been hooked! I started training with a local cricket club when I was seven, and when I was nine, I played a whole season for the West Yorkshire U11 squad. I recently trialled for Yorkshire and have just found out that I have made their squad for this season. I can't wait to start playing games and am so happy to have made the team.

I'm excited to move over to the Senior School next year and as we've some lessons over there already, it isn't scary. The only difference in moving to Senior School is that we might get more homework, but I'm ready for it. I also have school dinners in the main dining hall twice a week. I love it when we have pizza, but I also love the chicken dinner – I really like parsnips!

Being at Clock House is really fun. I'm happy and feel safe and looked after. Even though we are near the city centre, we have lots of space and it's peaceful with lots of green fields. I feel like I'm in the countryside!

### CAPTIONS

1 Lizzie started training with her local cricket club when she was just five years old and has been hooked ever since

### CAPTIONS

1 Clock House pupils Neelen T and Flora M helped to plant the wildflower seeds for the CWGC remembrance project  
2-3 Clock House pupils were excited to partake in a range of outdoor bushcraft sessions this term  
4-5 Year 4 pupils enjoyed their Anglo-Saxon workshop earlier this term and had plenty of questions to ask about the various topics they had learnt about





#### CAPTIONS

1 Anish is a keen left-hand pace bowler and plays for the West Yorkshire Asteroids

2 Alex plays for the U10s West Yorkshire Regional Cricket Squad and is an opening fast bowler

3 Year 2 pupils were delighted to look after twelve chicks earlier this term



1



2

## Cricket success for Clock House pupils

It is with immense joy that we share the cricketing success of two of our pupils: Anish M in Year 6, who plays for the West Yorkshire Asteroids and Alex G in Year 5, who plays for the U10s West Yorkshire Regional Cricket Squad.

Anish joined Saltaire Cricket Club at the young age of six! He is a keen left-hand pace bowler, so it is no surprise that his favourite cricketer is Trent Boult, who also plays the same role. His proudest moment was when he took his first wicket for West Yorkshire against North Yorkshire.

Alex joined Lightcliffe Cricket Club also at the age of six. Alex is an opening fast bowler and a middle order batsman. His proudest moment was when his team won the Bradford U9 cricket league when he was only seven and playing for West Yorkshire.

The boys are grateful for the support they have received from Mrs Jones and Mr Kellett. We are so proud of their achievements to date. Well done, boys!

BY A BUCKLEY, YEAR 5 TEACHER

## Egg-citement for Year 2 as they welcome some new visitors!

Summer term's focus for Year 2 was all about growing and changing – and it was started in style when a parcel of an incubator and eggs were spotted in the classroom on the first day of term.

Over the following few days, faces young and old lit up with delight as eggs hatched and we became responsible for looking after twelve little chicks for the first two weeks of their lives.

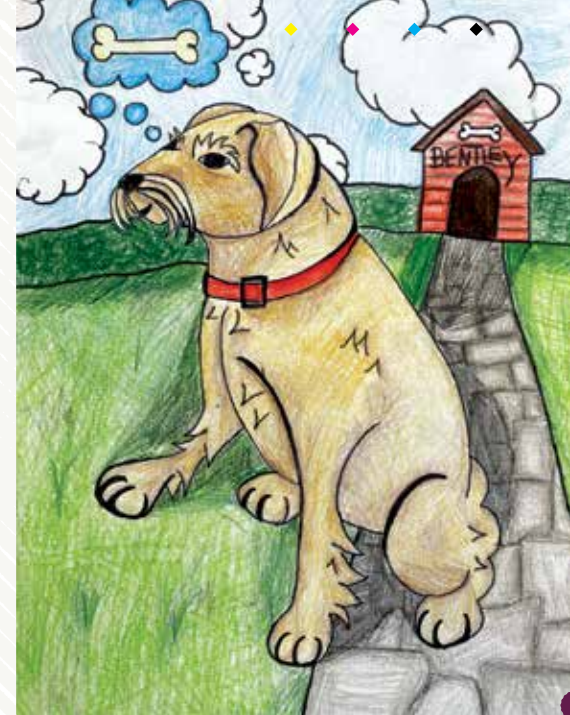
'Every day we had to weigh them, feed them and make sure they were happy. Miss Smith cleaned the poo in the brooding box,' said Aamina.

The hatching project gave the Year 2 children a wonderful, engaging, enriching and educational experience along with the opportunity to develop their cross curricular learning in a fun and interactive way. The children now want to know – can we keep them?

BY H SMITH, YEAR 2 TEACHER



3



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3



5



6

## 'My Dog Bentley' Year 6 Art Competition

Earlier this term, Year 6 took part in an exciting art competition organised by the Head of Senior School Art, Mrs Horsfield.

For the competition, the children had to follow instructions from Mrs Horsfield's video which guided them step-by-step to draw an outline of her dog, Bentley. The children were then shown how to colour their drawing to show the furry texture of Bentley.

A fantastic set of pictures were entered by the whole of Year 6, which included exciting backgrounds and even included some drawings of their own pets.

Prizes were awarded to joint winners Maya A and Addison S. Runners up were Nurayni G and Katy H and two special prizes were given to Eesa A and Muhammad T. They each received a variety of art equipment to help develop their creative skills. Well done Year 6!

BY S MORLEY, JUNIOR SCHOOL TEACHER OF ART

Joint winners

- 1 Maya A
- 2 Addison S

Runners up

- 3 Nurayni G
- 4 Katy H

Special prizes

- 5 Eesa A
- 6 Muhammad T

Flac Age





# Year 6 Census Topic

As this year is a census year, we wanted to seize the opportunity for the children to learn about the history of their local area and how it has changed over the years. The children pored over census records and used them to find out all sorts of information, such as why Bradford is such a diverse city and about the protests of the suffragettes.

Year 6 pupils also learned about censuses through history and how the government use the data to help with planning and policy. They thought about their family's links with censuses and loved making predictions about what they will be recording in 2031.

Another firm favourite was the opportunity to write and complete their own children's census in computing lessons. This included some super questions such as 'Who are your role models?' and 'What is your dream job for the future?'. The topic was a great opportunity to consider our community and the part we all play in it.

BY F ROBERTSHAW-HUGHES, JUNIOR SCHOOL DEPUTY HEAD, PASTORAL

“...”  
The topic was a great opportunity to consider our community and the part we all play in it.

## Eco-Bricks

This term, Year 5 children have been learning about plastic, how it is produced, and the impact single-use plastic is having on the planet.

Armed with their new knowledge, the children decided they wanted to do something to reduce the amount of single-use plastic they throw away. Then they found out about Eco-Bricks. These bricks are created when used plastic bottles are packed to a specified weight with other pieces of single-use plastic. When completed, they are durable enough to build with.

Year 5 created enough Eco-Bricks to build three planters and are now growing vegetables in the Clock House garden! They also collected empty water bottles and have turned them in to plant pots.

Not satisfied with their endeavours, the children also signed up to complete three climate pledges. These are aimed at reducing their carbon footprints. When they have successfully completed their pledges, they will earn a Blue Peter Green badge. What an amazing term's work!

BY N WATSON, JUNIOR SCHOOL TEACHER



## BGS AstroNews

As part of the Astronomy course in the Year 7 Wednesday morning Activities programme, a group of Year 7 pupils have been producing a regular astronomy newsletter called 'BGS AstroNews'.

This is distributed online to a number of local primary schools. Each edition keeps readers updated on what's happening in the night sky, highlighting the phases of the Moon, eclipses, meteor showers and the positions of the planets – all of which can be seen without the need for a telescope.

BY J KING, TEACHER OF PHYSICS

THE LATEST EDITION OF BGS ASTRONEWS IS AVAILABLE TO VIEW AT ... <http://bit.ly/astronews-may2021>



# Year 12 Grounds for Hope Day

Climate change. Inequality. Racial discrimination. Sometimes it can feel like the world is a terrible place and getting worse. But there are 'Grounds for Hope', and in a day of the same name in April, our Year 12 students took a closer look at long-term global, social and environmental trends and started to place current challenges in a historical context.

Teachers led a series of talks and workshops aimed at restoring students' hope for the future and boosting their sense of agency, so that they can shape a better future. In one session, students examined how humanity has combatted previous threats to our lives and our planet, and considered how, in Newton's words, we are 'standing on the shoulders of giants'. In another, students were inspired by how music, prose and poetry can foster hope. The day ended with a meditative 'silent disco', followed by a fun tug of war contest and a barbecue.

BY D ALCOCK, TEACHER OF GEOGRAPHY

CAPTIONS  
1-2 Year 12's 'Grounds for Hope Day' back in April concluded with a fun game of tug-of-war

### CAPTIONS

1-2 Year 5 children learnt about plastic this term and decided to do something to reduce the amount of single-use plastic they throw away. They created three planters and plenty of plant pots!

3 This term, Year 6 seized the opportunity to learn about the history of their local area and how it has changed over the years





#### CAPTIONS

1-2 The annual Ilkley Walk was a very wet one this year, but it didn't dampen our Year 7 pupils' spirits!

3-4 Year 8 Historians and Geographers were undeterred by the wet weather and ventured out of their classrooms on Friday 21 May for their first proper school trip of the year



## A wet walk to Ilkley...

The day after their end-of-year exams finished, Year 7 walked to Ilkley as their predecessors have done every year since 2005, with just a break for COVID in 2020.

Given that the walk took place late in the wettest May ever recorded, it was a minor miracle that we stayed dry for the first two hours. Spirits were high as we left Shipley Glen behind, crossed the Baildon gallops and headed out onto Bingley Moor.

Then it got wet.

First it was wet underfoot. 'You could actually drown in that one' was a reasonable assessment of one puddle. Then, belatedly, the rain arrived, blown in by a northerly wind that came from nowhere. The traditional picnic at the Twelve Apostles was cut short.

Amazingly, Year 7 never flagged once. They got wet, they sang, they ran, they laughed. Maisie the Dinosaur kept the backmarkers moving along.

The Ilkley Walk is always a memorable day, this one more than most. Congratulations and thanks to everyone who took part, staff and pupils alike.

BY P MERCKX, ASSISTANT HEAD – DEVELOPMENT



## Humanities Outdoor Learning Day

Undeterred by the unseasonably damp weather, the History and Geography departments were delighted to finally get Year 8 out of the classroom for their first proper school trip of the year, taking advantage of the rich learning opportunities on our doorstep.

First stop was a tour of the UNESCO World Heritage site of Saltaire village, helping pupils appreciate the scale of Titus Salt's mill and model community built in the 1850s. Having studied the industrial revolution in class, pupils were able to put Salt's project in its context and explore the concept of philanthropy as we debated Salt's motivation and historical significance.



In the afternoon the Geographers got the chance to get wet and muddy as they practised their fieldwork skills in the lush environment of Heaton Woods; measuring river flow and sediment, scrambling up the banks and learning about valley formation in the ice-age.

BY H BAINES, HEAD OF HISTORY

Life

Flac Age



## BGS's first telethon!

In July, BGS is launching our first ever telethon!

The Development & Old Bradfordians' Office is recruiting 13 student callers from across Sixth Form and our recent leavers. Callers will reach out to Old Bradfordians and raise money for the School's new 1662 Fund for Assisted Places.

10 percent of students currently receive funding and we want to increase this to 20 percent over the next seven years. The 1662 Fund has raised more than £1 million in its first year of operation, so this represents the chance to be part of a truly ground-breaking campaign from the very start!

BGS students are the best advocates for all that our School offers, and they will be fully trained before taking to the phones. They'll develop new communication skills, talk to interesting people from a range of backgrounds, and have the chance to boost their CV and find out about new careers.

BY L DAVIS, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT & EXTERNAL RELATIONS

## Top marks for Arjun!

Year 8 pupil Arjun M is celebrating after taking his iGCSE Maths exam three years early and gaining a Grade 9.



Arjun, 13, from Saltaire, said his mum had also taken her GCSE early and had encouraged him to do the same.

He said: 'I was happy and relieved when I found out I'd passed. I really enjoy maths and I like how it's logical. I'm now hoping to do my Maths A Level early too.'

Phil Watson, Head of Mathematics said it was clear Arjun had a talent for maths from an early age in Clock House. While in Years 5 and 6, he had had regular weekly lunchtime meetings in the Senior School to be introduced to more advanced concepts. He then worked very hard with Mrs Nazil in Year 7 and Mr Crabtree in Year 8 to prepare himself for his iGCSE.

Said Mr Watson: 'Arjun has shown great determination in learning concepts normally first introduced to Year 11 pupils as well as super self-discipline in the period of remote learning last summer.'

'It was clear that he was more than ready for the challenges of the iGCSE and he performed extremely well in the examination in January, achieving marks comfortably above the boundary for the top grade. We are extremely delighted and proud of his extraordinary achievement and happy to assist Arjun in the pursuit of his next goal of an A Level in Mathematics.'

“...”  
We are extremely delighted and proud of his extraordinary achievement ...

#### CAPTIONS

1 A selection of Sixth Form students and recent leavers will soon be taking to the phones to help raise money for BGS's new 1662 Fund for Assisted Places. Pictured is Aisha Q, who took part in the BGS Befriending Scheme earlier in the school year.

2 After taking his iGCSE Maths exam three years early, Arjun is now hoping to do his Maths A Level early too





## Charlotte shines in lockdown

Year 8 pupil, Charlotte D, showed true Hoc Age spirit during lockdown and the pandemic when she succeeded in keeping up with her hobbies and passing several exams.

### CAPTIONS

1 Charlotte kept herself busy during lockdown with a variety of activities from dance and singing to acting and piano

2 Daniel and Tom placed first and third in the Junior Classical Drama category of the recent virtual Leeds University Classics Competition

3 Well done to Year 9 pupil Alex, who has once again been selected to play for the Yorkshire County Cricket Futures Team

Charlotte took the decision prior to lockdown to keep up with the arts subjects she loves, from dance and singing to acting and piano.

Her dedication saw her pass her Grade 3 piano as well as gaining distinctions in:

- Grade 4 ballet
- Grade 3 modern jazz dance
- Grade 4 singing
- Grade 4 LAMDA acting

Charlotte also competed in two national Summit Dance competitions, where she was placed first and third; undertook a six-week screen acting course in the summer and successfully auditioned for a dance collaboration video, which will be filmed later in the year.

She continued her dance training throughout lockdown and was lucky enough to take classes with people from all over the world, including Francesca Hayward, principal ballerina with The Royal Ballet.

Dr Simon Hinchliffe, Headmaster, said: 'Charlotte, like many of our students, kept her spirits up and achieved an incredible amount during lockdown. She is an inspiration in the way she has continued with her training and lessons, successfully passing all of her exams, most of them with distinctions. Well done Charlotte!'



### There's no stopping Alex!

It has been a successful and busy year for Year 9 pupil Alexander W despite the COVID-19 pandemic, where he has thrived with his loves of both sport and music.

An avid sportsman, Alex has been selected to once again play for the Yorkshire County Cricket Futures Team. In addition, Alex has also been selected to play for the West Yorkshire and North East England hockey team, culminating in being asked to attend the North of England Hockey Performance Centre in Durham.

To top things off, Alex also passed his Grade 5 saxophone exam during what has been a very strange year for us all.

Well done Alex – you have fully embraced the Hoc Age spirit!

### Classics competition successes

The annual Leeds University Classics Competition took place online this year and saw an explosion of entries from across the country, but BGS pupils held their own!

Daniel B was placed first in the Junior Classical Drama category for his insightful talk on Patroclus, while Tom T took third place with his evaluation of Aristotle.

“...”

Their podcast impressed the judges ...

Edwin v-L, reading Ovid's telling of the story of Midas, was awarded first place in Junior Latin, while Ben J took third place in Senior Latin with a rendition of Livy's violent encounter between Romulus and Remus. Honourable mentions went to Harry B, Will C and Sophie T.

Meanwhile Charity C and Pollyanna G-W showed enterprise and an appetite for serious research in entering the Cambridge University Classics Faculty Audio-visual Competition. Their podcast on the deification of Alexander the Great impressed the judges, earning them first place along with a £75 prize.

BY K MEAKIN, HEAD OF CLASSICS

“...”

Well done Alex – you have fully embraced the Hoc Age spirit!