

SPRING
2023

CHALLENGE 04-06
ARTS 03, 07-09
COMMUNITY 10-11
LIFE 12-14, 24
JUNIORS 15-23



Bradford
Grammar
School

Mac Age

TV stardom beckons

BGS pupil Isha A, who has been acting since she was five, has landed a part in a BBC children's television programme. Isha, who is in Year 7, plays the part of Anneena in the CBeebies' series Biff, Chip and Kipper, which began airing earlier in March.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 03

Feature





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Welcome from the Headmaster

Welcome to this latest, spring term edition of Hoc Age.

My heart beats with pride when I take in the full scope of all that our young people and my colleagues undertake and achieve together. Ours is a busy, successful and happy school, and the following pages attest to the distinctive and abiding ethos of the modern BGS that makes it so.

And I write these words during a week when the broad span of school life is on my mind. Recently, I've enjoyed the best of days with our new, prospective Year 7s and their families during BGS 'taster' sessions. Tonight, I meet with OBs in London to discuss our plans for Assisted Places to widen access and on Saturday, it's an eagerly awaited black tie Rugby 50 Year Reunion in the DH Room. What an honour to be part of all this – a very special school fraternity for life for those who grasp the opportunity!

Dr Simon Hinchliffe

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



Search for Bradford Grammar School

APR/MAY

- 18 April**
Year 10 Geography Field Trip, Leeds
- 25 April**
Woodwind Concert
- 27 April – 29 April**
Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh Silver Practice Expedition
- 3 May**
Open Morning

MAY/JUN

- 12 May**
Year 13 Leavers' Lunch
- 16 May**
Brownlee Foundation Triathlon Event
- 19 May – 20 May**
Year 9, Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Assessment
- 25 May – 30 May**
Years 8 and 9 German residential trip, Rhineland, Germany
- 15 June – 19 June**
Year 12, Duke of Edinburgh Gold Assessment
- 16 June – 18 June**
Year 10, Duke of Edinburgh Silver Assessment Expedition

JUN

- 20 June**
Summer Concert
- 21 June**
Year 9 Hadrian's Wall Classics trip
- 23 June**
Year 11 Alton Towers trip
- 23 June**
Year 12 Art trip, London
- 24 June**
Senior Sports Awards Evening Ball
- 28 June**
Senior School Sports Day
- 30 June**
Speech Day

JUL/AUG

- 3 July**
Year 7 Transition Day
- 10 July – 15 July**
Years 9 to 13 CCF Summer Camp
- 17 August**
A Level Results Day
- 23 August**
Years 10, 11 and 12 Hockey Tour, South Africa
- 24 August**
GCSE Results Day

*All events may be subject to change



'It was fun to film Christmas scenes during a heatwave.'

CAPTIONS

1 and 2 Isha plays a character called Anneena in CBeebies' Biff, Chip and Kipper



Year 7's Isha A has performed in a feature film, adverts and now the CBeebies television programme, Biff, Chip and Kipper. She writes about her acting career so far.

'I started drama school when I was four. I remember leaving nursery and heading to an evening class. It just started off as a way to gain confidence and to meet different people. I really enjoyed it and got my first audition at the age of five.

My first ever part when I was six years old was on a feature film called *The Runaways*. It was set in North Yorkshire and featured the actors Mark Addy and Tara Fitzgerald. I had lines to learn and even got to sit on a donkey as part of the footage. Soon after, my brother, Daya, who's in Year 5 at Clock House, was in *The Secret Life of five-year-olds* so I appeared in that too!

My primary school friends knew I was involved in various projects, so they were always excited to know where I had been when not in school. My new friends at BGS know I have recently completed Series Two and Three of Biff, Chip & Kipper for CBeebies. I play the part of Anneena. It was fun to film Christmas scenes during a heatwave in the summer!

So far, as well as *The Runaways* film, I have worked on an advert for a toy called Scruff-a-Luvs, a Children in Need advert, a Facebook Portal advert, (which was a debut for my brother and I working together) and a Morrisons advert. I also voiced Frankie the cat in the Pip and Posy animation which was aired on Channel 5 and won a British Animation Award for Best Children's Preschool Series – which was very exciting!

I love my acting and enjoy working with production teams on set. I'd love to do it all the time, but I think I should play it safe with my education too. I'd like to be a vet. Maybe I could be a vet on TV!

“...”
I love my acting
and enjoy working
with production
teams on set.

U14s make national netball finals

Having made it through the county round of the England Netball National Schools' tournament in October, the regional round took place in January. We already knew this was a strong team that had a good chance of qualifying, but anything can happen in tournament netball.

The first half of each game could have gone either way, but strong second half performances, and adapting to the opposition's game play, allowed them to turn over the ball at vital moments. The team drew 10-10 against our local rivals, Woodhouse Grove, but ended every other game as victors with a minimum seven goals difference. The girls qualified as Regional Champions and are the first BGS

U14 team to make the National Finals in more than 10 years! It goes without saying the U14 squad, consisting of Year 9 and three Year 8 players, were phenomenal from start to finish. Captain: Jessica B. Vice-captain: Olivia G.

R MILLER,
ACTING DIRECTOR OF SPORT

CAPTIONS

- 1 The jubilant Under 14s who made it through to the England Netball National Schools' finals
- 2 Rebecca competing
- 3 Rebecca and her Team GB friends



1



2



3

Rebecca represents Team GB in Oz

Congratulations to athlete Rebecca F who competed in Australia over February half term after securing a place with Team GB for the 2023 World Athletics Cross Country Championships.

Rebecca came 23rd, leading her Under 20s women's squad to 6th place overall at the championships in Bathurst.

The event was Rebecca's third GB vest after she made her debut at the World Mountain Running Championships, in Thailand, in November, where she came second and helped secure team gold. She also represented GB at the European Cross Country Championships in Turin, where she was the second GB teammate to finish.

The 17-year-old, who runs with Bingley Harriers, was also part of the BGS team who won gold after competing in the ISF World School Cross Country Championships, in Slovakia, last April.

'Representing Great Britain at such a prestigious world championship was a dream come true and one I hadn't truly considered I could achieve at the start of the season,' said Rebecca.

'I was so excited I got to travel in a team with Olympians, such as Alex Bell, as well as watch and race alongside the best runners from all over the world.'

“...”

Representing Great Britain at such a prestigious world championship was a dream come true...



CAPTION

1 Will B has won two scholarships to study in America.

Coming to America

1st XV Rugby Captain and Year 13 student, Will B, will be heading off to America in August after securing two scholarships to study abroad.

Will has been offered both an academic scholarship and a scholarship to play rugby at Lindenwood University in St Charles in Missouri.

Said Will: 'It's always been a dream of mine to go to the US and rugby created that opportunity.'

Will hopes to major in Psychology and minor in Criminology while at university.

Dan Scarbrough, Specialist Sports Coach at BGS, said: 'Will is a talented athlete, a highly skilled rugby player, and a fine example to the younger years of what can be achieved at BGS.'

'This is an opportunity for him to develop further in an incredible environment overseas, in one of the top sporting universities in America. It's an exciting one and we'll be watching and supporting from across the pond here in Yorkshire.'

“...”

It's always been a dream of mine to go to the US and rugby created that opportunity.

Sports roundup

It's been a busy start to the year with many successes, and lots of students fully engaged in our sport offering. Hundreds of students have represented the school this term in a range of different fixtures and competitions.

CAPTION

1 The senior boys' hockey team

Hockey has returned for both boys and girls with a huge number of fixtures being played both indoor and outfield. There have been some outstanding performances with girls' teams coming from behind to win with ease. The indoor format has been welcomed and, at the time of going to publish, we've entered our first Under 16 boys, national indoor competition. The introduction of boys' hockey has been a huge success and I'm sure, in time, the fixture list will grow to inspire the next generation of hockey players.

Netball has seen more than 250 girls wear the navy and maroon vest this term – which is a success in itself. There is always plenty of opportunity to represent the school in friendly fixtures, national competitions and in the local Bradford Schools' League. The term has seen the return of National Schools' County Round where the Under 14, Under 16 and Senior teams took to the court. Excellent performances and teamwork were shown throughout the day with the U14 team qualifying to the next round. The Netball Parents' Association Annual Christmas Fair was a formidable success with more than £3,000 raised for future tours and for the charity Young Minds.

Rugby has seen an excellent turnaround this year with some competitive fixtures across all age groups. The Under 12 squad has started Bradford Grammar excellently considering the majority of the squads have never played rugby before. A particular highlight was defeating GSAL to nil at senior level. This has never happened before. We're grateful to have such supportive parents at all fixtures and at the Annual Christmas Rugby Ball which was, once again, a huge success.

The **tennis** programme has been going from strength to strength and has now been opened up to Clock House students. It bears testament to both staff and students that the Independent Schools Council highlighted our work with Skipton Tennis Club. BGS tennis teams at every age group earned themselves spots in the Regional Finals with two Regional Schools' titles and two second places. Well done to the Year 7/8 Girls' team who found themselves Champions of the North!



The **rowers** have spent much of the term training hard at the river but travelled to Northwich Head Race in November. All crews were in full support of each other with the J15s having a particularly good day with the Quad finishing in second place and the girls only beaten by excellent club crews. Another highlight was the number of students who attended the capsizing drill. Better never does stop.

There's been a huge take up at **table tennis** clubs this term and as a result we've had students representing the school in a wealth of West Yorkshire Schools fixtures. 42 boys and girls have represented BGS which is a testament to Mr Crabtree considering table tennis is not part of the curriculum.

The **swimming** programme continues to grow in strength and depth to ensure there is a real team feel to poolside. In October, a small contingent travelled to Durham for

the English Secondary Schools' Relay Championships. Faced with some formidable competition, it was the Under 15 Boys who shone the most, scolding most of our local rivals, but still a touch out of the medals. Congratulations also go to our superstar swimmer Leah Schlosshan who was named Young Sportswoman of the Year in the Leeds Sports Awards.

We've had **water polo** competitions with St Bede's and St Joseph's so far this year, with both as hefty learning curves, as our neighbours, who specialise in water polo, often shone through with game experience. Under 18s and Under 15s will be going into the ESSA competition in the near future.

We're proud of all students that have contributed to the sports programmes this term and we hope this continues into the next.

R MILLER,
ACTING DIRECTOR OF SPORT



Dogg's Hamlet, Cahoot's Macbeth

The drama department's production this year was Dogg's Hamlet, Cahoot's Macbeth.

With all three performances, the cast showed spectacular pace and professionalism. It was abundantly clear how much effort went into the production from their grasp of different languages to their slapstick routines and the hard work paid off. A range of 33 students took part in the play as either actors or crew and all were expertly directed by Ms Seager.

Congratulations to the talented cast who made all the performances memorable and enjoyable. Of course, the production team, led by Mr Dutton, deserve congratulations for a fantastic job with the set and lighting and really pulled the whole play together along with the costume department. Most importantly, congratulations are in order for Ms Seager for a massive hit in her first time directing!

KEIRA C, YEAR 12

TO READ THE FULL REVIEW, PLEASE CLICK HERE
<https://bit.ly/dhcm-review>



And so, we turn our thoughts to our remaining concerts this term. At the time of writing, preparations are underway for our Spring Chamber Concert and our Leavers' Concert on 21 March. We look forward to saying a fond farewell to our Year 13 musicians and celebrate their time at BGS.

E WHITE,
 DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Music news

We begin this article by reflecting on the wonderful music-making that took place at Christmas, in the Price Hall and at Bradford Cathedral.

It was wonderful to see so many (700!) people in the audience for our Christmas Concert, held in school on 6 December. It was an evening of fantastic music, laughter and Christmas joy. As is now tradition, the whole of Year 7 performed an item and this year it was the 80s classic, The Never Ending Story. Other highlights were our four school choirs singing a variety of music, both Christmassy and non-Christmassy, and music from our large ensembles, ranging from Hairspray to Queen and the Jazz classics Wolverine Blues, Birdland and Rockin' Robin. Our Junior and Senior Orchestras opened each half with music from Handel and Pirates of the Caribbean.

On 12 December our four school choirs and Senior Brass Group made the trip to Bradford Cathedral for our Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. The choirs sang a variety of music, both traditional and modern during the service. Highlights were Vaughan Williams' The Truth From Above and two Rutter carols, Candlelight Carol and the Sans Day Carol. Senior Brass group performed excellently as always and we were happy to sing a new descant this year, by Stephen Cleobury, former Director of King's College Cambridge Choir and the grandfather of two of our choristers.

This term we've had three of our smaller evening recitals; the string recital, brass recital and vocal recital. It was a real pleasure hearing so many talented pupils perform a range of music, and hear our small ensembles perform.

CAPTIONS

1 to 3 The cast of Dogg's Hamlet, CaHoot's Macbeth made all the performances 'memorable and enjoyable'

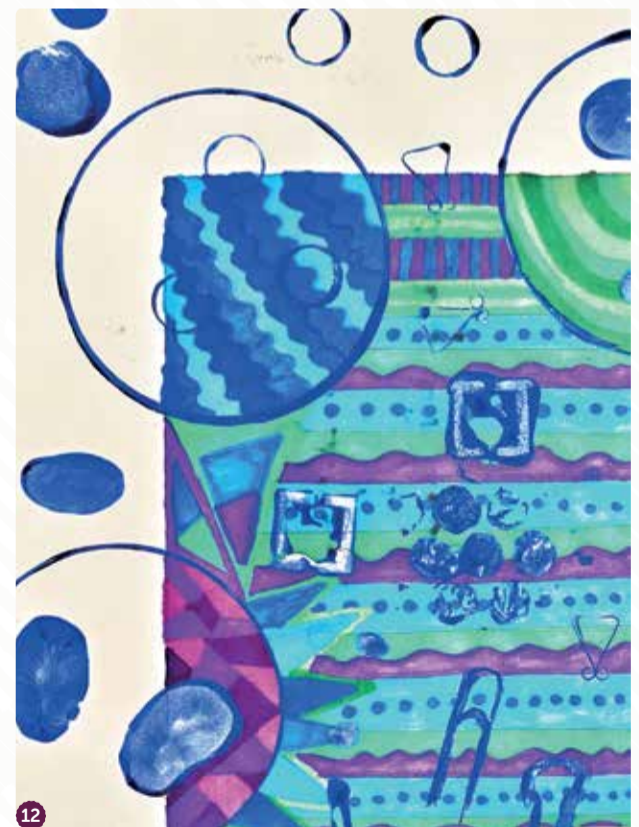
4 The Christmas Concert was an evening of fantastic music and laughter





Our artists of the term ...

- 1 Shayaan K, Year 8
- 2 Roop H, Year 9
- 3 Hannah B, Year 7
- 4 Alice S, Year 7
- 5 Shreya B-M, Year 7
- 6 Ava R, Year 10
- 7 Charlie H, Year 12
- 8 Summer R, Year 7
- 9 Erin B, Year 9
- 10 Saffiya I, Year 8
- 11 Inaayah K, Year 10
- 12 Sophia B, Year 7



'Launching rockets across the school hall is another fun experiment ...'

BGS's Head of Chemistry, Rob Moody, has been teaching chemistry for 15 years, in the state, FE and independent sectors. He explains why he loves to share his passion for 'blowing things up' with the wider community through his chemistry outreach roadshow.



CAPTION

1 Mr Moody loves nothing more than 'blowing things up' – and so do young people across Yorkshire

I've loved science for as long as I can remember. A great thing about chemistry, and one of the things I enjoy doing, is showing off! I'm so lucky as a chemistry teacher because when it comes to it, we can always start blowing things up! I say this as a joke, but it's true! At Christmas for example, instead of watching a film in lessons as a treat, I like to set fire to things – I love doing the exciting stuff.

As I've trundled through my career, I've built up a repertoire of demonstrations that me and my students love doing, and over the last 20 years I've also been lucky enough to go to demonstration lectures, where experts do exciting things with various combinations of chemicals. With these in my arsenal, my love of science keen to be shared, and a chat with the headmaster, we agreed to celebrate our strengths and share this passion with others. It was from here that the chemistry outreach roadshow was born.

My first chemistry outreach activity was just before the pandemic. I trialled it at my daughters' school, The Wharton's Primary School in Otley for Years 5 and 6 (with the addition of my daughters who were lower down the school but insisted they wanted to see it!).

And it was a great success – I loved it, the staff loved it but most importantly, the children loved it. I did a spontaneous combustion experiment which culminated in a burst of flames! I also did some simple, large scale colour changes which is great for interaction and participation. Launching rockets across the school hall is also another fun experiment which the children thoroughly enjoy.

The roadshows are also about being hands-on. It's not about just knowing a load of stuff. It's about doing and being able to do. And science is for everyone. It's doing. It's not about sitting and passively learning new facts. It's fun, interactive, and engaging. It's all well and good watching an experiment on YouTube, which many children like to do, but if we take something like the elephant's toothpaste experiment for example and show it to a group of primary school children, it's better seeing loads of foam squirting everywhere and hitting the ceiling live and in person, than it is seeing it on a screen. It really makes a difference in how science is experienced.

My latest roadshow was last year for Year 5 and 6 pupils at Lindley Junior School in Huddersfield, and I'm hoping to go back again this year as they've invited me back to deliver my 'show' to the latest cohort of Year 5 children. I'd love to take my little chemistry roadshow to more schools – it's just finding the time to fit it all in!

Alongside the outreach programme, I have also been involved with the Otley Science Festival. During my first visit, I blew up some hydrogen and people loved it. So, I did it again last autumn, but this time I had a larger space, enabling more visitors to do more hands-on chemistry. We made pH rainbows which most of the younger children hadn't experienced before. Younger and older children, plus adults all took part and a great time was had by all.

I also share my love of science via TikTok where I share demonstrations, experiments, science facts and jokes on a platform that older students engage in. My GCSE students particularly love it. They love that I'm occupying a space in their world – in an educational and non-invasive way.

It's on their terms if they want to watch my content and they find it rather amusing. I like the idea of a bit of chemistry sneaking in between the likes of Taylor Swift and Justin Bieber (or whoever is famous nowadays)! If I can make chemistry fun in a short and snappy way or remind someone that they have a piece of homework or revision to do, then it's all worth it.

I know it sounds daft, but I just want children to like chemistry. I want students to turn up in my room on the first day of Year 7 and be so excited about chemistry – I want them to know it's going to be great and interesting.

“...”

... when it comes to it, we can always start blowing things up!

French at Frizinghall

In February, nine willing A Level French students in Year 12 took up the challenge to plan and deliver a French lesson to all pupils in Years 3 and 4 at a local primary school.

With guidance from their teacher and French assistant, Muriel, they made some excellent resources and thought up games and fun ideas. Topics included numbers, ages and family.

BGS students were delighted with the warm and enthusiastic reception from the pupils and staff at Frizinghall Primary, and the success of their lessons, even though this was their first experience of teaching. Some admitted to feeling a little nervous beforehand, but by the end they had enjoyed it so much we may well have inspired the next generation of language teachers! It was agreed by both sides that this was a really valuable experience, and it's fast-becoming an annual tradition for us.

K WHYTE,
HEAD OF FRENCH



CAPTION

1 The nine Year 12 students who planned and delivered a French lesson to local primary pupils.

Action for Sport

For the past two years, Year 7 have supported the local Bradford-based charity Action for Sport.

We have collected and donated unwanted sports kit to help those in our local community for whom a lack of kit prohibits them from participating in sporting activities. We were delighted to open up our support of this charity to the whole school earlier this term and welcomed Andrew Kenure and Clive Michallat, the co-founders, into school. They delivered an insightful assembly outlining their vision SPECK (Sport – Poverty – Environment – Community – Kindness). Collections have been flooding in and both Clive and Andrew are delighted to receive them. Year 7 support this charity through their fundraising too, raising money by running a Christmas Café in December and with our infamous sponsored Ilkley Walk. We are thrilled that Andrew and Clive will be joining us for the walk in May this year and look forward to continuing to support this worthy cause.

E TOMLINSON, HEAD OF YEAR



Born in Bradford

Pupils at BGS have been excited to be involved in a major NHS research project designed to capture the adolescent journey.

Years 8, 9 and 10 are taking part in the data collection project Born in Bradford – The Age of Wonder, along with other young people from various secondary schools in the Bradford area.

Pupils will give their views in four surveys which ask about their outlook on life, their feelings on the pandemic, and their thoughts on the use of technology in the modern world. They will also provide physical data about their height, weight, cognitive and motor skills and blood samples.

As part of the project, Winifrid Robinson, who presents BBC Radio 4's You and Yours programme, visited the school in January to interview pupils about young people's mental and physical health and the effects of the pandemic on their teenage years. The programme aired in February.

Jane Chapman, Assistant Head (Pastoral) said: 'Our students were terrific. I felt so proud as I sat in on the interviews and heard them talk. What incredibly articulate and thoughtful young people we have at our school. The Radio 4 team was hugely impressed by them.'

CAPTIONS
1 and 2 The annual Ilkley walk last year was one of the fundraisers for Action for Sport
3 Pupils who were interviewed by BBC Radio 4 presenter Winifrid Robinson



Years 12 and 13 ski trip

Fewer than 15 per cent of the UK has ever skied so a ski trip is a great opportunity for our students to be able to take to the slopes.



Many advanced skiers always tell beginners that skiing outdoors is totally different from indoor slopes and our beginners group could understand why. La Plagne was a beautiful place, and our students behaved impeccably and were both skilful and daring on the slopes.

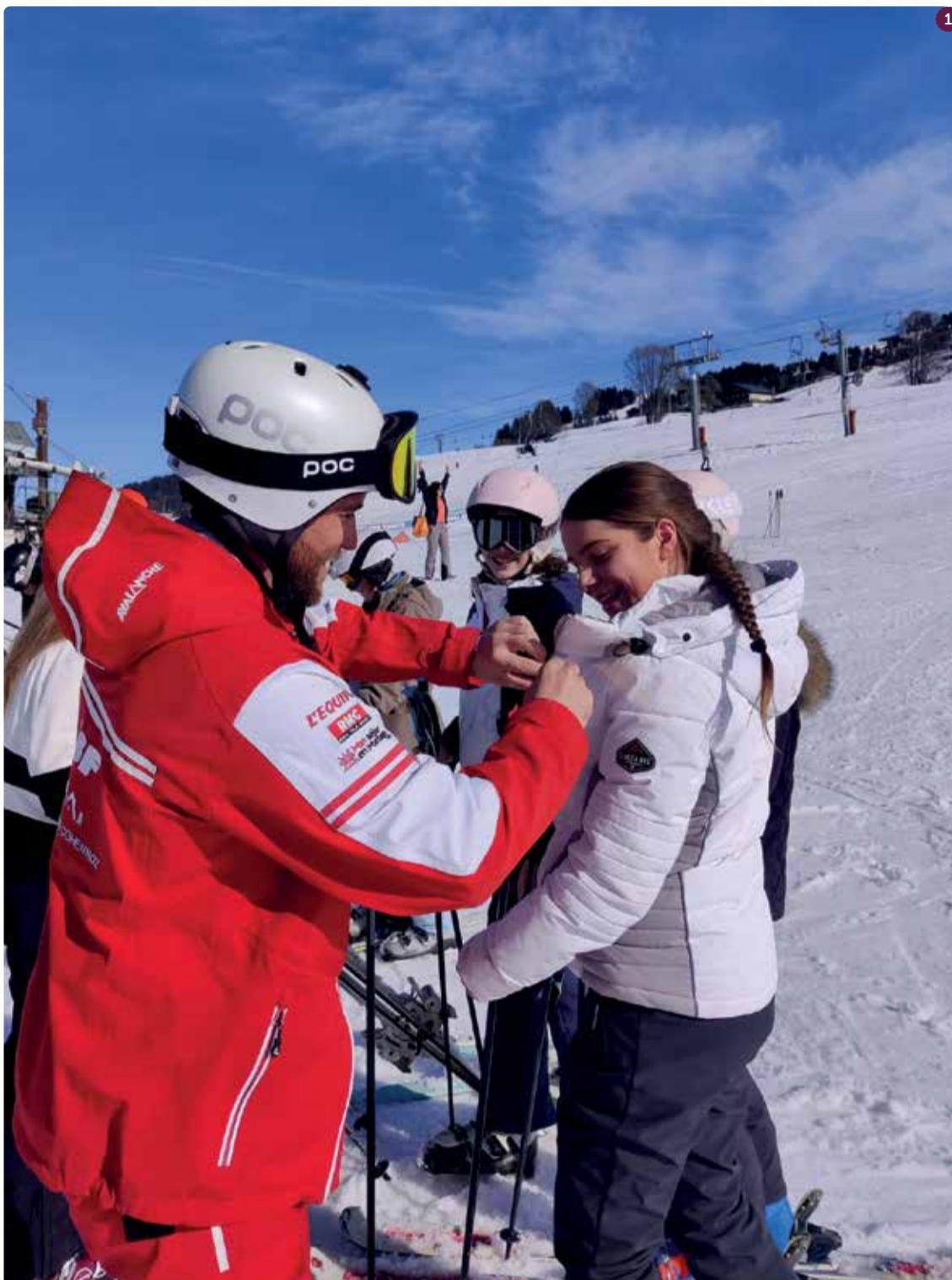
Our advanced group learnt to do '180s' and how to survive when skiing in deep powder. When skiing, at any stage, it's common to find yourself on the floor. We were keen to highlight disastrous events which caused masterful crashes by awarding a 'Master of Disaster' prize to the student or staff member

that caused the most carnage on a particular day. The prize was to wear a Grinch or a Santa suit on top of their ski attire! Then it was back to business where we reflected on the day's activities, including fines, and ironed out any new rules for the next day. Other than the skiing, which some students commented on being the best resort they had ever been to, highlights of the trip included bowling until 11pm, running to get the last bus home, swimming in a freezing outdoor swimming pool, serial ping pong playing on an

evening and a five Euro French Food challenge. Here, we gave every student five Euros and told them to go and buy an item of French food from the local Spar. Upon their return we had a lovely French buffet. The trip ended with a creative game of mattress dominoes which was an excellent way to end the trip after a fantastic week of six hours of ski lessons per day! Until next time, La Plagne.

R MILLER,
ACTING DIRECTOR OF SPORT

CAPTION
1 BGS students had great fun on the slopes – and afterwards!



CAPTIONS

- 1 and 2** Teachers and students had fun on the slopes of Crest Voland in France
- 3** The Wellbeing Week assembly shared details about Leeds Hospitals Charity's bear hunt.

Years 8 and 9 ski trip

On 10 February, 39 students in Years 8 and 9 travelled to the beautiful Crest Voland in France for a week of skiing.

The students coped admirably with a long delay at Dover and we arrived on Saturday ready to hit the slopes. During six days of skiing, all students made exceptional progress and it was great to see that even the beginners were skiing from the top of the mountain by the end.

Off the slopes the students were treated to table tennis competitions, quiz nights, pizza, a disco and even a mountain rollercoaster!

A fantastic week was had by all in the lovely French sun.

S DENBY,
HEAD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
& CAREERS



Wellbeing Week

The assembly led by the Pastoral Prefects on 10 February was a fitting finale to the fourth BGS Wellbeing Week of the year.

After considering the positive effects to wellbeing of connecting to others, taking notice and to keep learning, the theme of this Wellbeing Week was giving, doing something for the benefit of someone else without the expectation of receiving anything in return. Giving in this way leaves a positive feeling and a sense of purpose and self-worth, as well as improving self-esteem and emotional health. Pupils and staff embraced the BGS Wellbeing Week Challenge to offer random acts of kindness with flowers, chocolates and good wishes being shared in school. In the assembly, the Pastoral Prefects contributed a valuable message of giving, as well as details of the charity benefiting from the proceeds of the non-uniform day, which is Leeds Hospitals Charity's bear hunt, hence the reason for Dr Hinchliffe carrying a bear cub into assembly!

D CHALASHIKA,
HEAD OF PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT



Junior

2022

SPRING
2023



Bradford
Grammar
School
JUNIORS





Bradford
Grammar
School
JUNIORS

Welcome from the Junior School Headmaster

'Variety is the spice of life!'
Clock House pupils continue to embrace the wide range of opportunities available to them at BGS. We are very proud of their 'Hoc Age' approach which enables them to thrive.

We were delighted to welcome Mrs Sue Baker MBE and High Sheriff of West Yorkshire to speak with the pupils about her role and her compassionate support for disadvantaged young people across the region. Our Year 6 pupils recently visited Bradford Gurdwara as part of their Religious Studies course, supporting their inter-faith understanding.

Our Book and a Brew parent events, held in the Clarkson Library, continue to thrive and encourage reading in school and at home. Pupils in Years 4 to 6 made the annual visit to Sheffield Arena to perform in a massed choir of more than 2,000 primary school children, a wonderful opportunity to build confidence and have fun!

Meanwhile, Children's Mental Health Week gave pupils a chance to discuss wellbeing around the theme of connection. Pupils particularly enjoyed working in groups with children of all ages and learning about techniques to manage difficulties and support mental health.

This variety of educational provision continues to enrich learning and equip pupils to be the very best versions of themselves.

I hope you enjoy finding out more about life in the Junior School.

Mr Richard Ribeiro
Junior School Headmaster

APR/MAY

17-19 April
Year 3 Residential Trip
to Ingleborough Hall
24-26 April
Year 5 Residential Trip
to Bewerley Park
2-4 May
Year 6 Residential Trip
to the Lake District
3 May
Open Morning
5 May
Coronation Picnic (TBC)
16 May
Brownlee Foundation
Triathlon Event

JUN/JUL

9-10 June
Year 2 Residential Trip
to Borrowdale
13 June
Sports Day
20 June
New Pupils' Day
26 June
Grandparents' Day
27 June
Year 6 Production
3 July
Year 6 to Year 7
Transition Day
6 July
Clock House Prize Giving
event (afternoon event)

*All events may be
subject to change

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“...”
The experience
itself was
great for
the children.

CAPTIONS
1 and 2 Clock
House pupils
had a fantastic
time visiting
Robin Wood



Robin Wood trip

On 30 January, Year 4 went
on an amazing residential to
the top-quality activity
centre, Robin Wood.

After half an hour travelling, pupils
arrived in the grounds of Dobroyd
Castle ready for a half mile walk to
their residential rooms where they
would spend the next two nights.

The boys and girls had their own
dormitories split into two, where
they could have some privacy.
They shared these areas with
their friends.

All sorts of exciting activities lay in
store for them. Pupils participated
in canoeing (in a shallow lake),
the zip wire (80 metres long), and
the giant swings (the classes’
favourite). Indoors, the converted
sports hall had climbing walls and
trapeze areas.

At the end of each day, the groups
got together and enjoyed fun
games followed by hot chocolate
and biscuits.

Mrs Atkinson and Miss Weaire
(Year 4 teachers) commented:
‘The experience itself was great
for the children.’

Zoya in Year 4 declared: ‘I was very
nervous, but my teachers helped
me overcome my fears.’

AIYLA A, YEAR 5



Fantastic Mr Fox Cub

Clock House pupil Oliver M has been enjoying treading the boards with the prestigious Opera North this term.

Oliver, who is in Year 5, has been playing the part of a fox cub in the bittersweet fairytale *The Cunning Little Vixen* at venues across the country, including Leeds, Nottingham and Manchester.

'Before the curtain call we all stand backstage dancing to the music. We have a special 'fox cub routine' which we like to do with the Vixen and the Fox, it's become a tradition for every show!'

Said Oliver: 'Being on stage is such an experience because you're singing next to professional singers. They all make such a big sound. I'm finding it's a lot easier to sing and project my voice because I can hear how they sing.'

Oliver also loves performing knowing his father, Andrew, is in the pit as co principal clarinet in the Opera North Orchestra!

BGS pupils Poppy H-C and Emma C have also appeared in the production.

As part of the production, Oliver has had to step onto stage through a trap door with the other fox cubs and sings a duet with another cub.

'When you step through the trap door it makes you nervous for a second because you don't know how big the audience is going to be, and then you get into character and imagine you're a fox. It's fun acting as you give it your all,' said Oliver.



CAPTIONS

- 1 Oliver in his Fox Cub costume.
- 2 Oliver and his castmates. Image courtesy of Opera North.

“...”
Being on stage is such an experience because you're singing next to professional singers.

Clock House Life

Welcome to a round up of life at Clock House during the term, including visits from the High Sheriff and a gruesome medical workshop!

1. Sheffield Arena Song

We joined children from other schools at Sheffield Arena to create one enormous choir of more than 5,200 children, who even sang with pop star Heather Small to her song 'Proud' – we certainly were!

2. Play

By the end of their time in Year 6, every Clock House child takes a position of responsibility. Our play leaders run games and activities for the younger children and help form relationships across the School.

3. Book and Brew

Our Book and Brew events welcome families to the library lessons – Year 4 enjoyed using this time to share their own published writing.

4. Medical Mavericks

We were thrilled to welcome the Medical Mavericks back to school for their engaging but gruesome workshop.

5. Story Telling

National Story Telling Week allowed us to enjoy our strong relationship with the Senior School, one pupil offered to share a story with these Year 3 children quite unexpectedly.

6. Children's Mental Health

Children's Mental Health Week was a great opportunity for us to discuss positive wellbeing and share strategies for managing difficulties with the children.

7. Eggs

Children were egg-cited to find out the impact of contact with a range of foods on their teeth. They swapped teeth for eggs, just to keep the tooth fairy happy!

8. High Sheriff

The High Sheriff Sue Barker met with the School Council. They were thrilled to meet her and had lots of excellent questions.





CAPTIONS

- 1 New pupil Rowan G is loving DT and BGS's chilli con carne
- 2 Hector with Daya, who loves football, cooking and tennis

Welcome Daya

Daya is a new Year 5 pupil who has moved from a local school to join BGS, this term.

His favourite sport is football, and his other hobbies are school projects, cooking, cricket and tennis.

I asked Daya who his best friend and role model is. His reply to his best friend was Toby (from his old school) and his role model is Marcus Rashford (a successful footballer).

After discussing his interests outside of school, Daya mentioned that he has a pet fish and a small shark. He would like a small fluffy dog as his next pet. He also enjoys eating lobster dishes and his favourite type of food is Chinese.

Finally, I enquired about why he decided to come to Clock House. He has come for a better education and to be around 'sensible' people and believes the school is a great place. He enjoys most of the lessons.

HECTOR W, YEAR 5

“...”
‘...he has a pet fish and a small shark and would like a small fluffy dog as his next pet.

Welcome Rowan

In January, Rowan G joined Year 5, travelling from Rawdon, Leeds, each morning.

Rowan has settled in nicely with the help of his buddy (Jack). Rowan is enjoying his subjects even more at Clock House because the teachers go into a lot more depth. For instance, in English he has started using a variety of figurative language in narrative writing rather than just thinking about powerful verbs and adjectives.

Rowan likes everything about his new school, especially break times with his new best friends. His favourite food is chilli con carne which is spaghetti bolognese with kidney beans and spices. Rowan's favourite subject is DT (Design and Technology) because he likes craft work and constructing models. At present, Year 5 pupils are using cam mechanisms to create their own moving mechanical toys.

At his old school, Rowan did not have such a variety of lessons; he is also really enjoying all the extra-curricular activities Clock House offers.

ABRESHMINA K, YEAR 5



Super Samba

Clock House has a samba band! Run by Mr Stevens, we have lots of fun and get to work together to create beautiful rhythms and music.

Samba is a Brazilian musical genre with its roots in African drumming music. These are a few of the samba musical instruments: agogo (a metallic bell with two pitches played with a stick), gangza (handheld shaker), surdo (a large drum in three different sizes).

Our samba band performs at school concerts, in assemblies and for special events. Mr Stevens teaches us the rhythms and sounds by words! Believe it or not it makes the beat form in your head, the tunes sound amazing!

Mr Stevens enjoys it when 'The Band' is totally in the zone, the rhythms create a mega groove; it is like something magical happens. He started teaching this form of music 15 years ago. He also has experience playing African djun djuns and has worked with Moroccan music.

JAINA K, YEAR 6



Adventures out of school

Two members of the Junior Journalism Club were busy outside of school too. Hugo met his favourite Welsh rugby union player and Sebastian explored the RRS Sir David Attenborough, the new polar research ship.

In Gloucester, I visited the fabulous Kingsholm Stadium. I went there because we were meant to go to a match (Gloucester Rugby vs Worcester Warriors), but the match was cancelled as Worcester didn't have an owner, so sadly, they were relegated. Instead, they had a training day and my family and I, were given free tickets to see them in action. It was so special to me because I met my favorite rugby player, Louis Rees-Zammit.

HUGO M, YEAR 5

In Cambridge, I boarded a fabulous Antarctic research ship called the SDA (Sir David Attenborough). This was an amazing opportunity to see where my uncle is often based. Only family and people who work on the ship are allowed to explore the state-of-the art facilities. (Although I think everyone should be allowed on.)

It was a belated birthday treat!

SEBASTIAN R, YEAR 5



“...”
Only family and people who work on the ship are allowed to explore the state-of-the art facilities.

CAPTIONS

- 1 Clock House now has its own Samba band
- 2 Hugo with Louis Rees-Zammit, Wales national and Gloucester rugby player
- 3 Seb onboard the RRS Sir David Attenborough



CAPTIONS

1 The talented pupils who have developed a love of netball at Clock House and have now been selected for Yorkshire Netball's development and academy squads.

2 Pupils learn how to do CPR at Junior Dukes club

Netball Success

Yorkshire Netball has a new structure this year and for the first time has trialled girls from across the region at U11 to be selected for development and academy squads.



Five of our Junior School netballers have been successful and selected for the squads having trialled among hundreds of girls – Jaina K, Florence A, Emma G and Charlotte H from Year 6 and Rajan D from Year 5. All the girls have been introduced to netball while at BGS and through school lessons and clubs their love of the sport has grown. They have started playing with junior clubs in the area, often representing in older age groups.

The West Yorkshire development and academy training groups are the first step on the pathway which could eventually lead to Leeds Rhinos super-league franchise. Eva Lockett, a former BGS and Clock House pupil, is currently the Leeds Rhino's U21 Performance Squad captain. We hope this current group of talented athletes will follow in her footsteps and pave the way for our future talent.

Well done girls, we are very proud of your achievements!

G JONES,
HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL PE & SPORT



Junior Dukes

Junior Dukes is a club that Year 6 pupils can join on a Monday evening. It is aimed at increasing children's independence, confidence and resilience, and to push their knowledge and skill base even further – it can also help them understand life. You must complete a series of challenges and if you pass you are rewarded with a badge and a certificate.

To pass you must complete at least seven of the ten challenges including:

- Community service work (caring for others)
- How to turn off the water and electricity and find the fire blanket (averting disaster)
- Find what makes you happy and calm (happiness)

- Cook a meal for your family (cookery)
- Do exercise for 12 sessions (sports and body strength)
- Create a small play to perform in front of an audience (drama)
- Help around the house (domestic challenge)
- Design a web page (computer skills)
- Plan a trip (trip planning)
- Learn how to do CPR (first aid)

Abbas has completed the 'averting disaster' challenge. He supported his efforts with a report and photographs.

Iris has found the 'computer skills' challenge, enjoyable and fun.

CHARLOTTE H, YEAR 6



Terrific Travis's Hobbies

CAPTION
1 Nicky and Travis

Travis Y is a multi-talented Year 6 musician and squash player, who attends Clock House.

He is an avid squash player who has competed in national championships, including the Scottish Open where he came 5th out of ten people in the Under 11 Category.

Travis started playing squash in 2018 at the age of six while he was living in Hong Kong. However, at the age of eight, he moved to England and now plays in clubs based in Pontefract and Chapel Allerton.

His favourite squash players are Nick Matthew and James Willstrop.

Travis's talents have been noted locally. He is currently a finalist for the Bradford Young Sports Person of the Year Award. However, the results will not be revealed until May.

Travis is also an incredible musician and has achieved Grade Five on the violin.

Despite being an incredible violinist, Travis began his musical career playing the flute and switched to playing the violin at the age of six.

In the future, Travis aspires to become a professional squash player.

I wish him every success in being nominated as Bradford's Young Sports Person of the Year.

NICKY W, YEAR 6

“...”
In the future,
Travis aspires
to become a
professional
squash player.

Pastoral prefects

CAPTIONS

1 Pastoral Prefects Kai and Laiba

2 Laiba says pastoral prefects can offer a listening ear

3 Pastoral prefect Kai enjoys helping others

Kai D and Laiba H are two of 20 pastoral prefects at BGS. They talk about their roles and how they help their younger peers navigate school life.

What made you want to become a pastoral prefect?

Kai: I liked the sound of the 'pastoral prefect' role rather than being on the 'school prefect' team because it gives you the opportunity to help others. I knew it would lead to more training, so if people came to me asking for help, I would be able to support them. I also thought I'd learn skills which would be useful in life.

Laiba: I joined BGS in Year 9 and I was really shy. It took a while to make friends and settle in. It was a difficult time. One thing that really helped was Mrs Wilde introducing me to a Year 12 who had come to BGS from London. She spoke to me about how difficult it was for her to move. I really liked that idea of having other people in a similar situation to talk to. Being a pastoral prefect means I can help younger students in the same way.

What was the application process like?

Kai: We had to write a short piece on why we wanted to be a pastoral prefect. I was really happy when I was selected.

Laiba: We had to apply for the role of prefect and then all the teachers and students voted for the applicants they thought would be good. I was shocked and delighted when I found I was going to be one.

What training did you undertake?

Kai: We did a Mental Health First Aid course at the start of the year which talked about the importance of listening, gave training on how to give advice and how best to help someone who's having a problem, such as by signposting them to the right support.

Laiba: It was really good because it taught you how to deal with specific situations and how to act without making someone feel nervous so they would be comfortable to speak. Jo, the School Counsellor, also did some training with us to give us confidence about mentoring younger students.

What does your role involve and what do you enjoy about it?

Kai: We have meetings every other Friday to plan what we will be doing with the younger year groups and discuss assemblies and activities. We can also meet with the counsellor whenever we need to so, if we have any problems or anyone who needs referring, we can ask her for advice. At lunchtimes we run a regular boardgames club and invite students to come along. It's a far better way for kids to come and talk to us, especially if they're shy. It brings them out of their shell. The games club is also fun for us!

Laiba: I love games club too – everyone does! It's the same people who come most days and we encourage pupils who might not find it easy to socialise at lunchtime to come along and join in too. We also lead assemblies as part of our role and are delivering these to the whole school in each of the Wellbeing Weeks this year. I'm a Year 8 prefect and I'll be taking an active role in speaking about wellbeing in Year 8 assemblies, covering topics such as healthy eating and the importance of students looking after themselves. We also help with things like Anti-Bullying Week and Safer Internet Week.

What kind of issues do students need to talk about?

Kai: Bullying – online or in real life – advice about exams and life post lockdown are common things.

Laiba: For many of them it's friendship issues or loneliness, they may not have a lot of friends and be a bit shy. We can offer a listening ear for that and encourage them to meet new people through the games club.

What are the benefits of having pastoral prefects?

Kai: It's nice for students to be able to talk to someone who's close to their own age. Everyone is studying different subjects so they're there to give advice on what they're good at. I think it's easier to come to a Sixth Former and have a chat rather than speak to a teacher sometimes.

Laiba: When you speak to a teacher it feels more official and much more formal. It's a lot less pressure to be able to speak to a peer, particularly if they've gone through similar things. We have a good variety of people and we've all got different interests which is good. We all work together well.

