

SUMMER
2023

CHALLENGE 03-06
ARTS 06-10
COMMUNITY 11
LIFE 12-14, 23-24
JUNIORS 15-22



Bradford
Grammar
School

Hac Age

Swim star
Leah

CONTINUED ON PAGE 03

Year 13 student Leah S has had a fantastic few months of swimming success, culminating in a Team GB selection for the European Junior Championships in Belgrade this summer.

Feature





Bradford
Grammar
School

Welcome from the Headmaster

Welcome to this latest edition of our termly,
whole school magazine, Hoc Age.

Keep yourself
up-to-date!

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

As ever there is much to celebrate in this latest edition of Hoc Age and our young people deserve great credit for the manner in which they have gone about BGS life this past term. The rewards of a positive 'can-do' attitude and secure work ethic pay off. Meaningful rewards are rarely immediate however, but they do come to those who walk the talk of our Hoc Age – 'get on and do it' - motto. I am proud of our pupils and excited about their prospects. This feeling comes with added poignancy with respect to our Year 13 'Upper Sixth' leavers who have been superb ambassadors for BGS and are well equipped to make the most of the next chapter of life.

BGS leaves an imprint long after school days have passed. Developing this theme, I'll close with a few words taken from a rousing speech delivered by an Old Bradfordian at one of our reunions, they go thus: "This school is legendary. To announce oneself as a member of its community inspires

respect and admiration in all far-flung parts of this world. It is a beacon of achievement and ethical behaviour for all who know it... this is our purpose. We are here, together, tonight, to commit once more to the continuity and longevity of our great school. We are a team! We love life and all mankind. Hoc Age!"

Simon Hinchliffe

Dr Simon Hinchliffe

LATEST BLOG ...

bradfordgrammar.com/simonsblog



Search for Bradford Grammar School

JULY/AUG

10-15 July
Years 9 to 13 CCF Summer Camp

8-20 August
Senior Hockey Tour, South Africa

17 August
A Level Results Day

24 August
GCSE Results Day

31 August-2 September
Senior Rugby Pre-Season Tour, North Wales

SEPT/OCT

1-3 September
Senior Hockey Pre-Season Tournament, Nottingham

20-22 September
Year 7 PGL Trip

30 September-15 October
BGS Art Exhibition at Salt's Mill

30 September
Year 7 Sports Super Saturday

7 October
Open Day

7 October
Ilkley Literature Festival Author Event

11 October
Year 7 Information Evening

OCT

14 October
OBA Lunch

17 October
Founders' Day

18 October
Year 9 Faiths in the City

20-23 October
Years 11-13 French/German Trip, Black Forest

21-26 October
Years 9 & 10 Hockey Trip, Rotterdam

22-26 October
Year 9 Netball Competition, Disneyland Paris

25-28 October
Years 10-13 Classics and RS Trip, Rome

NOV/DEC

9 November
Sixth Form Information Evening

16 November
Open Morning

22 November
Year 11 Parents' Evening

23 November
Chamber Concert

28 November
Year 13 Parents' Evening

5 December
Christmas Concert

7 December
Year 9 Parent's Evening

11 December
Nine Lessons and Carols

*All events may be
subject to change



Leah, who began swimming at age seven, is looking forward to building on her success after winning gold in the 200m Individual Medley last year at the championships, where she was close to breaking the European Junior record.

It follows her amazing haul at the British Swimming Championships, in April, when Leah smashed several personal bests and gained two senior bronze medals – in the 200m IM and 400 IM. She qualified for the European Juniors in Serbia and Under 23 Europeans in Dublin.

Leah gets up at 4am, four times a week, to train for two hours before school followed by another 2.5 hours of training after school every day.

She said: "It has been tough to fit in training with studying for A Levels but at least I've had free periods and I'm pretty good at switching off. Many of my friends at swimming don't have access to a pool at school either!"

CAPTIONS

1 Leah S in Year 13 has been selected to represent Team GB at the European Junior Championships this summer

Round up of sport successes

At the time of writing, the PE Department have had some phenomenal successes this term with many fixtures, competitions and events still to take place; Sports Day and the Senior Sports Ball to name just two of them.

The Boat Club competed at the National Junior Sculling Head at Eton, York, Durham and Tees regattas. Several students had successes at these events and the rowing programme is as full and popular as it has ever been. Highlights include Bella M, who represented Yorkshire in the Inter Regional Championships and won at the National Junior Sculling Regatta held at Eton Dorney, in the WJ15 singles.

As BGS is a registered Tennis Club, there have been many, formidable successes. The senior girls made it through to the regional finals and to the last round of qualifying for the finals in the national cup. This success means we will be ranked inside the top 20 schools in Britain for tennis next year. The U13A boys and girls and U15A girls teams won West Yorkshire Division 1 with the U13B boys and girls and U15B boys and girls teams winning West Yorkshire Division 2 - all are through to the regional knockouts in September. A special mention must go to Jameela T who is now ranked number one in Britain for U12 girls. Jameela and also Zack B have qualified for the Road to Wimbledon Yorkshire Finals. Additionally, BGS Tennis Club won a highly commended award at the Yorkshire Tennis Awards, highlighting the commitment and success of all tennis players and coaches at our School.

Athletics has been hit by some bad weather and state school teacher strikes. The most notable success was our junior girls' qualification for the regional round of the English Schools Competition. We have also had some outstanding individual successes with seven athletes qualifying to represent Bradford in the West Yorkshire Games.

Our cricketers have had a well-balanced season thus far. With many fixtures, both friendlies and cup, locally and across the region, there have been many highlights in team and individual performances. The U12s, U13s and U14s all found themselves victorious against strong Barnard Castle sides. Seamus N has scored 250 runs and taken 15 wickets this season, with Jonty M scoring 94 runs against Scarborough College. Gurdass S has had consistent, excellent performances at U15s. A special mention must go to Venus W who plays for Lancashire Academy and Erin G who has been selected for the U15 Yorkshire County Cricket Club team.

International success continues in running, cross country and orienteering. Amelie L has represented England in the U18 Mountain Running Cup and placed third both in the individual and team competition. Amelie L and Rebecca F competed in the World Mountain and Trail Running Championships in Innsbruck, Austria. Amelie L finished a remarkable fourth, with Rebecca winning the event and becoming World Champion. Both girls were the first two GB runners home, finding themselves in first team place. Emily G has been selected to represent Great Britain in the European

Orienteering Championships in Bulgaria. Emily also finds herself as a reserve for the biggest international junior orienteering race in the summer – the Junior World Orienteering Championships. It is phenomenal what this group continue to achieve. Many can only aspire to be as successful as this talented bunch, but they are a group of role models that inspire many of our younger athletes.



CAPTIONS

2 Amelie L (right) receives a bronze medal at the U18 Mountain Running Cup

Zak B has had an excellent hockey season at club and beyond, playing consistently in the men's first team at Leeds Hockey Club in the National League, coached by an ex-GB international. He was the top goal scorer at the club this year. His team won the league, securing promotion to Division 1, North. Zak also represents the U18 team who secured a place in the England Hockey Tier 2 Plate Finals in Nottingham which they won. Zak has been selected to be part of the England Hockey Player Pathway, training weekly with the Talent Academy at the University of Durham which he went on to captain in their inter-TA competitions. Zak makes his own way there on a weekly basis which shows the dedication of those aspiring to elite sport. He has also played in cup matches at BGS both indoor and outdoor. Zak is an outstanding hockey player with some of the best stick work and skills we have seen at BGS. The sky really is the limit for him - we are proud of his progress and excited to see where his hockey career takes him.

Congratulations are in order for Year 13 student Joseph H who has secured a rugby scholarship with Belmont Abbey College, USA. To secure scholarships in the USA, not only do students have to be academically strong, they also have to be at the top of their game. This scholarship reflects how invaluable Joseph is as an athlete and role model to us at BGS.

R MILLER,
ACTING DIRECTOR OF SPORT



1



2

CAPTIONS

- 1 Zak B (left) has had many recent hockey successes – the sky is the limit for him!
- 2 Congratulations to Joseph H who has received a rugby scholarship with Belmont Abbey College, in the USA

LEGO® Challenge success



3

BGS pupils of all ages made it through to the national finals of a major LEGO® robotics competition for the first time in the School's history.

The team of ten, comprising pupils spanning Years 7 to 12, had been practising for weeks after winning the regional finals of the Institution of Engineering and Technology's (IET) FIRST® LEGO® League challenge.

Pupils had designed and built a robot to carry out a series of challenges. Although they suffered a nail-biting robot malfunction on the day of the finals (22 April) at Harrogate Convention Centre, the team battled through to seventh place with their back-up robot.

In addition, they won the Bechtel Award for Safety for their innovation project, for promoting safety in the community. Pupils created a CO2 measuring device to be placed outside schools to encourage drivers to turn off their engines and improve air quality. They also ranked fourth in the STEM project phase.

Zaina M, in Year 8 said the team had grown together as friends over the months working on the project.

"I'm really into computing, it's fun, and there's also a lot of banter in the group which is great," she said.

READ THE FULL ARTICLE HERE ...
bit.ly/bgs-lego-success



“...”

I'm really into
computing, it's fun.

CAPTIONS

- 3 The BGS team, called The Incredilegos won the Bechtel Safety Award and placed seventh overall in the First® Lego® League - National Finals

**CAPTION**

1 Bella M competed in the Junior Sculling Regatta, where she won her first national gold medal

Year 10 pupil Bella M has had a fantastic start to her summer regatta season, starting with selection to represent Yorkshire at the Junior Inter-Regional Regatta, for a second year running. Athletes are selected from 12 regions across the country – Bella raced in tough conditions and placed sixth overall.

A week later Bella went on to compete at the Junior Sculling Regatta, a 2,000m national race held on the Olympic Lake at Eton Dorney. The format of the day began with a time trial where athletes raced to compete in the final and to decide who raced in the favoured lane. Bella produced one of her best performances to date, overtaking a sculler ahead of her and placing first, giving her a spot in the A final and the middle lane. In the A final she raced a calm, composed and mature race, keeping in the main group for most of the race until the last 250m where she stormed past the sculler who had been way out in front to win her first national gold medal. What an outstanding start to the season with many more exciting races to come. Well done, Bella!

M JONES-GERRARD, ASSISTANT SPORTS COACH - ROWING

Oarsome successes for Bella!

Table Tennis - Under 13 Girls Third Nationally

On Sunday 22 April the U13 girls team took part in the English Schools Table Tennis Association (ESTTA) Team Finals. Year 7 pupils Ellie S, Jameela T, Hanaya M and Daisy N were West Yorkshire champions in December 2022, zone winners in January 2023, and regional winners in February 2023. They were competing against three other regional winners in the finals.

They tried hard against a strong Putney High School team in the first match, but other than the one set won by Hanaya, it was a tough start. They next played the eventual winners St Marylebone CE School with all players winning at least one set and Hanaya winning one game.

In the final match, BGS secured third place defeating Acklam Grange 6-2 with Daisy and Jameela winning two matches each and Ellie and Hanaya one.

A CRABTREE, TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS AND TABLE TENNIS COACH



CAPTION

1 Well done to our U13 Girls Table Tennis team who took part in the ESTTA Team Finals in April and placed third nationally

Music round up – part 1

CAPTIONS

2 & 3 Towards the end of last term, the Spring Chamber and Leavers' Concerts were held in the Price Hall

Spring Chamber Concert and Leavers' Concert

In the latter stages of the spring term, we held two wonderful concerts in the school's Price Hall.

Our first, the Spring Chamber Concert, was a chance for our soloists and small ensembles to perform to an audience of supportive family members, guests, teachers and peers. We saw a wide variety of music performed, from Bach's Double Violin Concerto to Samba Reggae from the Samba Band and music from 'Harry Potter'. It was a wonderful evening - thank you and congratulations to all performers.

Two weeks later, we held our annual Leavers' Concert. This concert is our way of saying goodbye and thank you to our Year 13 musicians who have contributed so much to the musical life of the school. Six Year 13 musicians performed, managing to cover rock, twentieth century French viola music, songs from the musical 'Ghost' and 'Evita', and Spanish guitar music. We bid all our Year 13 musicians a fond farewell and we hope they continue making music after school. In addition to our soloists, all our large ensembles performed and a wonderful evening was had by all.

E WHITE, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC



Art trip to Amsterdam

We had a fantastic art trip to Amsterdam over the Easter holiday taking in the incredible work of Vincent Van Gogh where students were inspired by the application of paint and colour.

We had a very busy few days in which we travelled on the trams across town and investigated the busy waterways of the city. Students collected inspiration from the Rijksmuseum and the Stedelijk Museum for their future GCSE and A Level artwork. However, the highlight for the group was certainly the bike ride in De Hoge Veluwe National Park where we cycled on Dutch bikes in the sunshine, some admittedly a little wobblier than others! There was much fun and laughter followed by a hearty meal at the Hard Rock Café.

S HORSFIELD, HEAD OF ART



1



2



3

CAPTIONS

1-3 Staff and students alike had a great trip to Amsterdam over the Easter holidays

The Witches



4

On Thursday 18 May, Years 7 and 8 welcomed the audience into the Hockney Theatre to watch an adaptation of Roald Dahl's classic tale, 'The Witches'.

CAPTIONS

4 Members of the Friday Drama Club put on a fantastic performance of Roald Dahl's classic tale, 'The Witches' earlier this term

Since February, the Friday Drama Club have been meeting to put on this production; from selecting the play, to auditions, rehearsals, and costume preparation. For most pupils, this was their first school performance and for some it was their first time ever performing onstage.

Overall, the pupils did themselves proud. They committed themselves fully to the performance, throwing themselves off the stage onto crash mats, wearing wigs over bald-caps and interacting with the audience – all impressive feats in the world of drama. They brought the story to life with the right amount of humour thrown in. A stand-out performance from Georgie H as the menacing Grand High Witch kept the audience hooked throughout, and the ensemble worked well as a whole to pull the story together. A special mention must also go to the student tech team and backstage crew, whose input was invaluable. Well done all.

C BRUCE, TEACHER OF ENGLISH



Our artists of the term ...

- 1 Aayat K, Yuvraj U, Esme U and Sara H, Year 8
- 2 Abigail H, Year 10
- 3 Alex W, Year 9
- 4 Alice S, Year 7
- 5 Amanda A, Year 9
- 6 Ava R, Year 10
- 7 Bismah M, Year 10
- 8 Holly L, Year 10
- 9 Mya P, Year 10
- 10 Roop H, Year 9
- 11 Sophia B, Year 7
- 12 Sophie L-S, Year 10





“...”

An inspirational evening ...



1

CAPTION

1 BGS hosted Birmingham Conservatoire's famous Cello Gym back in May

2 Congratulations to Year 13 student William who achieved three merits in his grade 8 music exams



2

Music round up – part 2

Cello Gym

On 24 May, Bradford Grammar School hosted Birmingham Conservatoire's famous Cello Gym.

This event, organised by our inspirational cello teacher, Sam Laverick, saw three members of the cello department at Birmingham Conservatoire come into school to deliver an evening of inspirational music. Forty cellists signed up to the event, from Bradford Grammar School and other local schools, with participants coming from as far afield as Manchester to take part. The Birmingham Conservatoire Cello Gym is a high-energy, fast-paced and exciting opportunity for any cellist from Grade 2 up to Diploma level to participate in a unique cello workout with a massed cello ensemble and has been touring the country. On the evening, the cellists performed specially created arrangements from Bach to Coldplay and listened to performances from multi award-winning professional cellists. It was an inspirational evening and one to remember for many years to come!

Three grade 8s for William!

A Level Music student, William C set himself the challenge of taking three grade 8 exams over Christmas and at the beginning of the spring term.

William, who learns drums and the viola in school with Mr Stevens and Mrs Davis and piano out of school, achieved three merits in his exams, a brilliant achievement. William, who plays in numerous school ensembles, including the Wickermen, Concert Band, Senior Orchestra and Senior Strings is leaving school this year and hopes to study linguistics at university. Congratulations, William!

Trinity and Associated Board Exam Results

At the end of the spring term, all students taking Associated Board and Trinity instrumental exams were awarded either a merit or distinction.

This is a fantastic achievement by all students and a special thank you must go to our wonderful team of visiting music teachers for their teaching. Over 400 music lessons are taught each week in school on all orchestral and band instruments, voice, theory, and organ. Get in touch with Miss White in the first instance if your child is a budding musician and would like to start lessons.

emw@bradfordgrammar.com



E WHITE, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Old Bradfordians & Development Office update

The summer term has been a very busy time for the Old Bradfordians and Development Office. Not only are we preparing to say goodbye and good luck to our Year 13 students, we are helping them stay in touch with the Old Bradfordian (OB) community through our 'Beyond Bradford' platform.



OBs are spread far and wide across the globe. On 15 May, BGS alumni from three different generations got together in Vietnam 'for beers and a chin wag' in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC). Tom Peel (2007) and Pete Oldfield (1983) - both currently teaching at The British International School of HCMC - welcomed Kevan Keegan (1974) to their local bar thanks to introductions made through the Development Office.

The latest edition of the Old Bradfordian magazine was distributed in May, a link to the digital publication can be found below. This issue features news from OBs and the wider BGS community with features written by OBs, photos from social and sporting events and sadly, obituaries remembering those we've lost.

Over the summer break, the office will be busy. We will be actively raising money in support of the 1662 Fund for Assisted Places as well as recruiting for three new roles. These roles will enable us to strengthen our connections to OBs, our parent community, the teaching and support staff as well as the many friends of BGS that help to sustain the school and the surrounding communities.

VIEW THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE OLD BRADFORDIAN HERE:

<https://bit.ly/OBmag2022>



R SHARP, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

CAPTION

1 The latest edition of the Old Bradfordian magazine is now available to view online, covering the period January 2022 to December 2022

2 Old Bradfordian Kevan Keegan (1974)



We are also preparing for our annual appeal for donations in support of the 1662 Fund for Assisted Places which launches in early July. Our Year 13 Assisted Places recipients are helping us by sharing their stories with the BGS community before they head out to 'make their mark' in the world beyond the BGS campus.

Back in April, Luke Jones from the Old Bradfordians Office helped welcome some OBs to campus to celebrate 30 years of table tennis. Mr Crabtree, one of our maths teachers, has been coaching table tennis since he joined the school in September 1993. 30 pupils across the school were involved in a coaching session as well as a fixture against the OBs, in which the OBs triumphed.



Year 7 sponsored walk

What better way to end Year 7 exam week than with a stroll to Ilkley.

This year, Friday 26 May was a gloriously sunny day and Year 7 pupils enjoyed the challenge of walking from school over the moors to Ilkley. Despite the high temperatures, the pace was quick (helped by Mr Merckx leading from the front) and we enjoyed our picnic lunch at the Twelve Apostles. Donations of preloved sports kit have been gratefully received by Action for Sport, our Year 7 charity this year, and we look forward to presenting them with the money we have raised through this sponsored event which will help them continue their amazing work in our local community. Well done, Year 7!

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ACTION FOR SPORT AT:

actionforsport.com



E TOMLINSON, HEAD OF YEAR 7

CAPTION

3 & 4 Year 7 pupils (and staff) enjoyed their walk to Ilkley on 26 May, raising funds for Action for Sport

Celebrating 30 years of Table Tennis at BGS

On Monday 17 April over 30 pupils and several Old Bradfordians (OBs), former parents and grandparents gathered to celebrate 30 years of table tennis with Mr Crabtree at Bradford Grammar School.

Two of the OBs had knocked on Mr Crabtree's door back in 1995 to persuade him to run table tennis for Clock House. The boys were David White (2003) and Alex Runham (2003) who formed part of successful teams in the next few years alongside Stephen Denny (2005), former National Under 16 Boys Champion, and Andrew Woodhead (2004). Many other players have also shared success in table tennis over the years with the school reaching the ESTTA Team Finals an impressive 12 times.

These former students along with recent leavers, James Bowmer (2021) and Josh Poulsen (2020), played against the school alongside Mike Nixon (1983), Chris Nixon (1986) and Stephen Bailey (1983) who played table tennis at the school in the 1980s. The OBs won convincingly, but Innes M in Year 13 and Shishir S in Year 11 managed to win a couple of matches each.

Pupils also enjoyed the coaching and prizes were presented to those who had won school competitions. Anees K defeated Laith G in the Under 11 competition, with Henry A receiving the improved player award. Aarez A won the Under 13 competition and Samuel F received the improver award.

Tea was enjoyed by pupils in the Dining Hall, followed by cupcakes and the presentation in the DH Room, allowing pupils and parents to see numerous newspaper reports and photographs from the last 30 years. The OBs and families enjoyed the buffet and shared stories of their table tennis exploits over the years.

A CRABTREE, TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS AND TABLE TENNIS COACH

CAPTIONS

1 to 3 Clock House children, Senior School and Sixth Form students, and Old Bradfordians gathered for the Table Tennis Reunion in April, and all had a great time





CAPTION
1 to 3 Wednesday 7 June was BeBOLD Day for Year 9, which took place in Lister Park

BGS Outdoor Learning Day – BeBOLD

Education goes well beyond the classroom, and we make space for outdoor learning even in the midst of examination weeks.

The first annual 'BGS Outdoor Learning Day' took place in 2018, and the sixth such event was a great success. On Wednesday 7 June, midway through their exam week, Year 9 pupils made their way to the beautiful neighbouring Lister Park: a Green Flag winner and the jewel in the crown of Bradford's outdoor spaces.

Four departments chose to accept the challenge of using the great outdoors to both engage and re-energise our pupils. Classics used the dramatic statue of Diana in front of Cartwright Hall to open

young minds to the power of myths, and History revisited the Anne Frank Tree to encourage discussions around memorialisation.

Meanwhile, Maths used the area around the bandstand to encourage hands-on learning of complex concepts, whilst Religious Studies made the most of the peaceful sensory gardens to introduce pupils to the Japanese practice of 'shinrin-yoku' ('forest bathing') – a kind of walking meditation which was a world away from the examination hall. The event followed World Orienteering Day, which took place in the same park and involved all members of Year 7 and 8 during their examination week.

D ALCOCK, TEACHER OF GEOGRAPHY

CAPTION
1 Being part of the CCF gives young people the life skills and self-confidence to take charge of their lives so they can reach their full potential at school and beyond

The Combined Cadet Force at BGS

The Combined Cadet Force (CCF) at BGS has been actively engaging its Army and RAF Section Cadets in a variety of exciting activities, enabling them to develop their potential and grow as future leaders.

Army Section Achievements

Recently, we sent four cadets to the Army Cadet Force 4-Star Senior Cadet Cadre, a remarkable opportunity for them to develop their leadership skills. This programme not only provided them with the ability to lead but also equipped them with the knowledge to create and deliver lessons effectively. Notably, Cadet Staff Sergeant Matthew M went above and beyond by attending the Tri-service Master Cadet Course, an exclusive event held at the Cadets National Training Centre during the Easter period. Out of 50 participants, Matthew was one of only two CCF cadets to be awarded the prestigious qualification of Master Cadet, highlighting the emphasis on leadership development within the course.

RAF Section Achievements

The RAF Section of the BGS CCF has also been making remarkable progress. Cadets in this section were provided with gliding and powered flight experiences at RAF Leeming and RAF Topcliffe, with more to follow. These not only expanded their horizons but also paved the way for them to obtain flying qualifications. In addition to these practical experiences, the RAF Section engaged in theory lessons on aviation to complement their skills.

The BGS CCF continues to serve as a testament to the institution's dedication to providing a comprehensive education and preparing students for the future. Through engaging activities, rigorous training and opportunities for leadership development, the CCF equips students with valuable skills that will serve them well throughout their journey in life.

MAJOR J GREENLEE, BGS CONTINGENT COMMANDER

THE CCF MEET EVERY TUESDAY AFTER SCHOOL AND IS OPEN TO PUPILS AGED 12+. INTERESTED IN JOINING?
jgreenlee@bradfordgrammar.com



Year 13 Leavers

Friday 12 May saw the culmination of happy and successful BGS careers as Year 13 spent their last day in school.

CAPTIONS
2 Students enjoyed their final afternoon at BGS – particularly ice cream before the tug-of-war
3 William C gave a moving performance during the Year 13 final assembly competition!

Following the traditional breakfast meet at the Brownlee Pavilion, Year 13 gathered in the Hockney Theatre for their final BGS assembly joined by their teachers and form tutors. Spirits ran high and much laughter prevailed at the outset as pupils enjoyed a 'past and present' photo montage. Mr McOwen offered some words of reflection and invited students to take heart and confidence from their individual BGS journeys and the friendships they have forged along the way.

Next came what has got to be the most incredible performance ever to grace a BGS stage; an expert rendition of acapella Mongolian throat singing by Kamran J. Easily the most poignant moment of the assembly followed as William C gave a moving piano and vocal performance of Queen's 'Bohemian Rhapsody' during which the whole theatre sang along, phone lights aloft! To close, Mr McOwen invited the BGS staff band 'Roc Age' to the

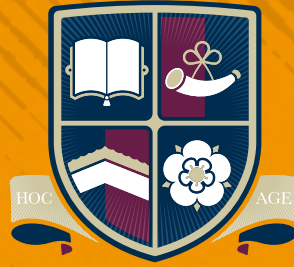
stage to perform some songs including Neil Diamond's 'Sweet Caroline', featuring none other than Elise S-D who performed with flair and panache on the drums.

With the sounds of Mr Hanson's guitar ringing in their ears, Year 13 then enjoyed a fine barbeque lunch before making their way onto the Governors' Lawn, ice cream van waiting, for the annual leavers' tug-of-war competition, expertly adjudicated by Mr Pullen, as parents enjoyed lunch with a glass or two of Pimms alongside on the Terrace.

R M'OWEN, HEAD OF YEAR 13



Junior



SUMMER
2023

Bradford
Grammar
School

Summer 2023





Bradford
Grammar
School
JUNIORS

Welcome from the Junior School Headmaster

The Junior School continues to be a vibrant and engaging place to be, our pupils whole heartedly embrace the many and varied opportunities made available to them.

It is wonderful to see them playing their part in contributing to the ethos and values of the School.

The House Music Competition has once again been a triumph, with exceptionally high participation rates amongst the children.

The structure of the competition enables all pupils to take part, should they wish to, and culminates with the winning entries performing at the Spring Concert or at our Prize Giving event, both of which take place in the prestigious Price Hall.

In April, we welcomed Kombe and Maxwell to Clock House, two

teachers from the Children's Choir of Africa based in Mombasa, Kenya. During a special assembly Kombe and Maxwell shared the choir's music and accounts of the life changing impact of the 'Educate the Kids' charity.

Our annual residential visits remain an important part of the curriculum and offer every Clock House pupil the opportunity to further experience outdoor pursuits, building resilience and independence. As children from each year group embark upon their own residential visit, they benefit from enhancing their existing

friendships and challenging themselves to reach beyond the comfort of their classrooms and day-to-day school life.

Focus weeks and events have included Science Week, Eco Week and World Book Day, not forgetting the legendary Friends of Clock House Disco with DJ Shuffles. In addition, we delighted in welcoming our families to school to join us in celebrating the coronation of King Charles III, with a picnic and a resounding rendition of the national anthem and our coronation song. The Clock House Junior Journalists have, as always,

done a marvellous job, working collaboratively to report on the above events and activities for the Junior section of the Hoc Age publication. I hope you enjoy reading their articles and finding out more about the Junior School.

Mr Richard Ribeiro
Junior School Headmaster

SEP/OCT

15 September
Autumn Welcome Event
7 October
Open Day
17 October
Founders' Day
19-20 October
Harvest Appeal

*All events may be
subject to change

NOV/DEC

13-17 November
Anti-Bullying Week
16 November
Open Morning
28 November
-6 December
Book Fair
29-30 November
Parents' Consultations
7-8 December
Secret Santa Events
12 December
Years 2 and 3 Nativity
12 December
Alhambra Theatre
19 December
Years 4, 5 and 6 Christmas
Concert

Our Junior Journalists have collectively produced the following pieces for this edition of Hoc Age. Thank you and well done to the following pupils who helped interview and write the articles:

- **Abreshmina K**, Year 5
- **Aiyla A**, Year 5
- **Eva S**, Year 6
- **Hector W**, Year 5
- **Hugo M**, Year 5
- **Jaina K**, Year 6
- **Nicky W**, Year 6
- **Sebastian R**, Year 5

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Search for Bradford Grammar School
Facebook – @BGSclockhouse
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“...”

... exciting to see our natural outdoor spaces being transformed ...

CAPTIONS

1 From September 2024, Bradford Grammar Junior School will be admitting Reception and Year 1 pupils

The BGS family is growing!

We are thrilled to announce that our BGS family is growing, and from September 2024, we will be welcoming Reception and Year 1 pupils to the Junior School.

This will create a natural entry point for families, further ensuring that our young learners benefit from the outstanding BGS teaching from an early stage, laying firm foundations in terms of cognitive, physical and emotional development and enabling a consistent approach throughout their education.

Significant investment in the grounds of the Junior School is allowing us to enhance our already thriving outdoor curriculum and provide increased lesson time outside in the fresh air, benefiting the whole of the Junior School. This investment will create imaginative play spaces, accessible to the children throughout the whole academic year.

Work will commence on our state-of-the-art new building and grounds during the summer months; it will be exciting to see our natural outdoor spaces being

transformed over the year, with the creation of a mud kitchen, a construction area, a woodland exploration area, a treehouse and an outdoor performance space, providing a flourishing and enormously varied range of fantastic activities.

The new development will add to all that is wonderful about BGS - our amazing libraries, music department, outstanding sports facilities and outdoor learning spaces, indoor swimming pool, smaller class sizes, specialist teaching staff and not forgetting the fabulous catering provision and wrap around care, to name but a few highlights.

TO FIND OUT MORE, VISIT OUR DEDICATED WEBPAGE ...

bradfordgrammar.com/junior-school-development



The Adventures of Clock House Pupils

CAPTIONS

1 Year 3 pupils ventured to Ingleborough Hall back in April and took part in lots of fun activities

2 Year 6 pupils felt 'on top of the world' on their residential trip at the YHA, on the outskirts of Windermere.



“...”

... I was so proud that every child in Year 3 attended the residential...



Each school year, Clock House pupils are lucky enough to travel away from home and school to a range of exciting locations. Read below to find out about this year's exciting visits.

Year 2

Year 2 enjoyed their trip in June, they travelled to Hawes End Centre on the shore of Derwent Water to take part in a Teddy Bear Pirate Adventure.

Year 3

Year 3 ventured to Ingleborough Hall, Clapham between 17-19 April. The children enjoyed caving, they visited and learned about the local area, conquered a big walk near Ingleborough, played on the rocks, and participated in geocaching, team building and line dancing!

"I was so proud that every child in Year 3 attended the residential and I was blown away by the comments we received from staff about their outstanding behaviour" reported Mrs Buckley.

Year 4

Back in January, the Year 4 residential took place at Robinwood Activity Centre, Todmorden.

Over the course of three days and two nights, pupils worked together in teams to complete a range of challenging activities, from archery and canoeing to zip-lining and the trapeze. Year 4 will never forget this wonderful residential, where they developed their collaborative and communication skills in problem solving and resilience building.

Year 5

On the morning of 24 April, Year 5 visited Bewerley Park, Pateley Bridge brimming with excitement. During their time away from home spanning a couple of nights, children enjoyed rock scrambling around Brimham Rocks, canoeing, walking along Trollers Ghyll and most impressively of all, leaping off a pole on the leap of faith! Some of the teachers were brave enough to join in with the latter but only the very brave ones!

Year 6

On 2 May, the Year 6 annual residential took place at the YHA, on the outskirts of Windermere near Troutbeck village. All children participated in climbing and enjoyed a substantial walk in the surrounding fells with informative talks on the local area and its inhabitants. Pupils also played team games on an evening, and braved kayaking games and catapult building in groups.

Clock House Life

Welcome to a round-up of life at Clock House during the term, including an Easter egg hunt and meeting a bestselling children's author!

1. Eid

Children from across the Junior School work together at School Council – their carefully packed bags of Eid treats were very popular amongst their peers.

2. Reading Buddies

As the weather grows warmer, our team of reading buddies have enjoyed supporting younger pupils inside and out.

3. Easter Egg Hunt

The whole school Easter egg hunt was planned and prepared for by the House Captains, Treasurers and Vice Captains – just don't tell the Easter Bunny!

4. Year 6 Scholars

Our Year 6 Scholars were welcomed by Dr Hinchliffe to receive their certificates. We are very proud of their achievements.

5. House Music Competition

The House Music Competition allowed several pupils to share their talents on an impressive array of instruments.

6. Science Week

As part of Science Week, the children enjoyed a science fair organised by our team of STEM ambassadors.

7. World Book Day

Meeting Francesca Simon was a World Book Day highlight for Junior School children.

8. Year 2 Science

In Science, Year 2 have been studying living things. Pupils were given a caterpillar and observed them each week. Some turned into butterflies. "It was fun having the butterflies on our hands; they were really ticklish" said one pupil.

9. Educate the Kids

Clock House pupils were honoured to be visited by the charity 'Educate the Kids' to discuss the fantastic work they do as part of the Singing Children of Africa project. Teachers, Kombe and Maxwell visited, along with Cindy Krishna to deliver an assembly. Unfortunately, the children were not able to travel this time, but we hope they will be able to in the next academic year.





Adventures out of school: An interview with Emerson

A talented Year 3 pupil recently participated in a Magic Show alongside his dad.



CAPTIONS
1 Year 3 pupil Emerson took to the stage with his dad back in April at the Bingley Arts Centre for a family magic show

The show, titled ‘Hey Presto! Family Magic Show’ was held at Bingley Arts Centre on 29 April. It was Emerson G’s first time performing to a big audience, so it was both nerve-racking and exciting. Emerson happily shared the stage with Alan Hudson, Britain’s Got Talent finalist Ryland-The Kid Magician, and Craig Perry. He performed gymnastics, linking rings and had a giant line to sit on! His friends were in the audience and Mrs Buckley his form teacher also came along to enjoy the show. The duration of the performance was around three hours and Emerson very much enjoyed the experience.

When discussing the performance with Hugo M and Hector W in Year 5, Emerson had this to say: “The atmosphere was simply amazing. I was both nervous and excited that people in the audience knew who I was, but after a while, that made me enjoy it even more!”

Watch this space for an update on even more exciting performances in the future. We wish Emerson a magical future ahead!

“...”
The atmosphere was simply amazing.

CAPTIONS
2 Clock House pupils had lots of fun celebrating King Charles III’s coronation.



A Royal Celebration

On Friday 5 May, Clock House parents, staff and pupils enjoyed a picnic in the Sports Barn.

The picnic was for King Charles III’s coronation which was on Saturday 6 May. Families were invited to bring a delicious picnic to enjoy with their children. The picnic started with the Junior School pupils singing the national anthem, which parents and carers were welcome to join in. Then pupils sang the coronation song with Mr Brook, their music teacher, on the piano. Following this, the children joined their families and enjoyed the rest of the picnic. In addition, there was a range of activities to enjoy, including hula hooping, a speed bounce competition and finally a tennis lesson. Overall, it was a hugely enjoyable and memorable occasion.

'Whose World?'

The Clock House Eco Council decided to celebrate our world around us during a special week, beginning on 5 June called World Environment Day.

During the week, pupils considered our school grounds from different perspectives in their humanities lessons under the theme 'whose world?'. They also delivered a special assembly, hosted a competition to design a recycling logo, organised a second-hand book sale, and had fun in house meetings through activities based around the theme.

E GREEN, JUNIOR SCHOOL TEACHER

CAPTIONS

1 & 2 Clock House pupils considered the school grounds from different perspectives and enjoyed learning whilst outdoors during World Environment Day



1



2

HMC Historic Netball Victory



CAPTIONS

1 Well done to our Clock House netballers who beat RGS in the HMC finals – the first time in history we have won the cup

Back in March, Bradford Grammar Junior School's A team won the cup! This is the first time in history this has happened.

One of the finalists, Hadiya K said, "My team performed exceptionally well, and we were one in a million!"

A member of the cup winning team, Aisha A stated, "I felt like I was going to bounce through the roof!"

We were under a lot of pressure in the final, but we managed to pull through and win! In the semi-final we played Royal Grammar School Newcastle (RGS) in a very tough game with a score of 3-2 and in the final, we played RGS again and managed to win 10-0 in order to bring the cup home! On the way back we all were singing songs and celebrating!"

“...”

... On the way back we all were singing songs and celebrating!

Meet Daya

CAPTIONS

2 Daya in Year 5 is following in his big sister's footsteps into the world of acting

Year 5 pupil, Daya A, has been following in his sister Isha A's footsteps into the acting world. Members of the Junior Journalism Club asked him about his theatrical exploits.



How long does it take to prepare just before an audition?

It usually takes 10 minutes to go over lines and get the camera set up.

How does it feel when you get the part?

It feels amazing getting a part. I like to go to new places to film and meet new people.

What's the best role you've ever played?

It would probably be the Royal Navy short film when I played the main part.

What made you decide to become an actor?

I went to acting club outside of school – I just wanted to have fun in classes – but I got roles and I was over the moon.

When did you decide to become an actor?

When I was about four or five as I did 'Secret Life of 5 Year Olds' in London.

What do you enjoy most about acting?

I enjoy the feeling of being in front of cameras and learning lines for a big part.

What types of projects have you acted in before?

A Royal Navy advert, 'Secret Life of 5 Year Olds', a Facebook advert and the TV drama 'Ackley Bridge'.

Meet Nida

Nida B joined the BGS Sixth Form in September 2022 'due to the school's incredibly appealing academic achievements and co-curricular opportunities on offer.' She is studying A Level Maths, Politics and History, the latter being her chosen subject for university. Nida has also recently completed the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and is keen to share it's benefits with other prospective EPQ students. This is what she said:

What is the EPQ and why should people take it?

In essence, the EPQ is a 6,000-word dissertation about an independently researched topic of choice. It is much more than merely word counts and academic writing though. It is an opportunity to go beyond the curriculum and study a topic of your own choosing. An EPQ is also an invaluable opportunity to learn about yourself as a student. It enables you to really consider whether your interest in a subject area is sustainable and strong enough for you to pursue it further at university, etc. An EPQ is also helpful to establish a routine for how to carry out research, which is a learning opportunity. Consequently, I also used this personalised routine for a research competition I've participated in since. I think the most appealing factor of taking an EPQ is that you gain many tangible skills, such as critical thinking and improved communication skills, something which enriches your entire academic journey, for example, in my A Level History. Another unique benefit of taking an EPQ is that many universities may lower their entrance requirements as a means of recognising and appreciating these extra skills.

What was your EPQ about?

After much consideration, I chose to investigate the following question: 'To what extent did the protests of the youth impact the civil rights movement in the USA in the 20th century?'. I chose this, although rather spontaneously, because the civil rights movement is something I've always been interested in.

What exactly did you have to do?

My EPQ started in September 2022 and ended in Spring 2023. The first

assessed piece of written work I submitted was the Project Proposal Form (PPF) in which I outlined and justified my plans. Another key element of the EPQ was the activity log which had to be consistently written in throughout the EPQ journey, although, at times, this was a slight challenge to keep up with. In the end, I really enjoyed writing the log as it was a useful means of reflecting on my progress on the other written components (introduction, literature review, main body, conclusion, references, evaluation and abstract, the latter not being included in the 6,000-word limit). I analysed lots of academic journal articles and books. Organising and referencing these was a bit difficult at first but it quickly became second nature. The final part of the EPQ is the presentation which is performed in front of an audience including family and friends, as well as the assessors. To my surprise, although I was very nervous, the presentation was the most fun part of the entire EPQ. As the evening commenced, and I presented my findings to various groups of people, my nervousness was replaced with calmness, and I enjoyed talking about my work, including to family and friends.

How did it feel to lead your own project?

Leading my own project was a unique and valuable experience. As well as developing my own critical thinking and problem-solving skills, I strengthened my sense of self-responsibility, whether this was through using my study periods productively or implementing my tutor's advice. However, the idea that you must do everything yourself when doing an EPQ is a slight exaggeration, help is always on hand. Throughout the

EPQ I had regular 1-1 meetings with my EPQ tutors enabling me to control my own timetable and test my ability to stick to deadlines. As well as these meetings, teachers provided a lot of support through resources, whether it be a hard copy of an academic phrase bank or pre-recorded guidance on referencing. Teachers were always there to help.

What piece of advice would you give to someone thinking about taking an EPQ?

Do not overcomplicate things. I think the key difference between getting an exceptional grade or not comes down to listening to your teacher's advice and implementing it. This can only be effectively done if you communicate your worries clearly, so don't be afraid to admit your weaknesses or request help when needed. Another thing is to leave sufficient time at the end to edit your work properly – so don't procrastinate at the start. Overall, I think the most important thing is to enjoy your topic.

A FEW WORDS FROM A MCOWEN, HEAD OF SIXTH FORM ENRICHMENT & EPQ:

"Nida engaged deeply with the existing literature within the field, synthesised her findings into arguments that addressed a range of factors and perspectives, before reaching a clear conclusion that recognised the implications of her final judgement and recommendations for further research. Nida delivered an engaging presentation, which revealed a genuine interest in the topic and meaningfully reflected on her EPQ experience. For these reasons, Nida was amongst the highest-achieving EPQ students this year. I thank her for sharing her reflections on the EPQ experience with a wider audience. It was a pleasure to supervise her throughout the process."



CAPTION

1 Year 12 student Nida is studying A Level Maths, Politics and History, and recently completed the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ).



CAPTIONS

1 BGS were named the winning team based on their 'advocacy, knowledge and application of the law'

2 The RS retreat to Whitby was a thoroughly unforgettable experience for our Year 11 pupils

'Mr Joe Brook, a student at Bradford University, appeared at the Lady Hale Court in the city on 24 May charged with assault as a result of a prank gone wrong.'

The court heard how Brook, 20, had been loitering in Richmond Street playground in December last year with his friends, one of whom, Ms Nat Knight, sustained significant injuries after Brook pushed her so hard on a park

swing that she was propelled high into the air. The case focused on whether Knight, a known thrill-seeker, had in fact consented to the dangerous stunt, or whether Brook's recklessness amounted to guilt.'

The case was fictitious, but the surroundings (courtroom, Crown court judge, and witnesses) were all real in the final of the Bradford University Mock Trial competition. The BGS team had previously won cases involving shoplifting and

From classroom to courtroom

criminal damage to progress to the final, in which they defended Joe Brook against a prosecution team from Woodhouse Grove. Leyla I and Pollyanna G-W, acting as barristers, supported by solicitors Tayjus B-M and Oliver T, won the final and the competition, making BGS competition winners for the fourth time running. Joe Brook, on the other hand, was remanded in custody for sentencing.

J REESON, HEAD OF CLASSICS

What a treat! Glorious weather in Whitby and a beautiful setting to reflect as well as to study hard in preparation for the examination season ahead.

Year 11 embraced all the opportunities of the Religious Studies retreat. Our visit to Whitby Abbey was even more special given the spectacular views out to sea as we gazed on the inspiring memorial to Caedmon at the top of the 199 steps. As usual, we were overwhelmed by the generous hospitality of the Sisters of the Holy Paraclete, who discussed openly their vocations as nuns and their work in the Priory of St Hilda, Whitby and internationally too.

We were very fortunate to have a question-and-answer session with the Sisters in their new accommodation above Sneaton Castle. We were also privileged to have a tour of St Mary's Church at the top of the 199 steps and we learned about its history, architecture and the day-to-day life of the church today. Can you believe that this little church can seat 2,000 people? The local shipwrights added gallery after gallery in this building and we were stunned at the age of the original box seating too. Intensive learning and unforgettable experiences. Well done to our Year 11!

R SKELTON, HEAD OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Year 11 Religious Studies retreat to Whitby



CAPTIONS

3 We say 'Auf Wiedersehen' to Frau Murach who is retiring after 36 years at BGS



Farewell Frau Murach

The legendary Frau Murach retires after a whopping 36 years at BGS.

Her past pupils (some of them now BGS parents!) remember her lessons as exacting and inspiring, many going on to study and work in Germany. Karin always sets high standards in the classroom and is a wealth of knowledge on all things German, sharing cultural and grammatical expertise which is second-to-none. Over the years she has led many trips to Germany, enriching pupils' experiences with her first-hand knowledge, particularly of Berlin and its history.

The Modern Languages Department will take a while to adjust to life without Frau Murach, but we wish her a long, healthy and very happy retirement. She is a real team player whose warmth and crisp humour will be missed enormously. Auf Wiedersehen, Frau Murach!

L KINGSLEY, HEAD OF MODERN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT