



Bourne Grammar School Weekly Bulletin



19 - 23 May 2025

Final Farewell from our Headteacher

Alastair Anderson, Headteacher

The final week of term has seen no letup in terms of purposeful business and significant student achievement. Congratulations to our U13 Girls Cricket team for a tournament victory at Sleaford Cricket Club this week, and to all students participating in the West End Wonder Junior musical extravaganza which has been in full rehearsal mode, we look forward to the performance run next term. And congratulations also to our athletes; the full squad, divided into four teams based on sex and age, has qualified for the next round of the English Schools competition having won through the County round. Next up is the Regional 'A' finals and we wish all four teams well as they launch their campaign to reach the National Finals in Birmingham on July 12. The school has an extraordinarily good record in achieving representation at a national level in athletics over the last 15 years, and we are hopeful for success again in 2025. In terms of trips, having welcomed our geographers back from a very sunny and warm Snowdonia, our historians had an excellent day in London on Monday and we bade farewell to our A Level Chemistry and Biology students on Tuesday as they flew off to Lisbon. It was also very pleasing to see our No Pens Day run so smoothly on Wednesday, proving that learning does not always have to happen with a pen (or keyboard) in hand! Opportunities a-plenty, week after week.

This will be my last bulletin entry as Headteacher and I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who has made my time at BGS so rich, varied and fulfilling. The school is in a very good place, Mark Brunner is an excellent choice as successor for the years ahead, and I wish everyone well in all they choose to do in the future. My own horizons now shift to Edinburgh and, as I embark on that new phase of my own life, a few words of advice; I like a good quote, and the best ones are often the shortest. This from John F Kennedy, 35th President of the United States, in his inaugural address in 1961:

"Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try."

Quite right. Goodbye to all.

Year 9 and 10 Go to Work Day

Mrs Elliott

Last week our year 9 and 10 students had Go to Work Day where they were able to shadow a relative or family friend in the work place so finding out about what's it's like to go to work and also find out about an industry sector. In last week's bulletin, Dougie wrote about his day at Caterpillar. From design agencies to architects to the RAF to healthcare to construction to solicitors to insurance, there was barely a sector that one of our students didn't get to gain an insight into.

Students commented:

'It made me think about what I wanted to do in the future'

'I got to learn about a job that I didn't know previously'

'It makes me want to work harder so I can get a better job'

Students were encouraged to take photographs of their day; some of the images submitted to the photo competition are shown below.



Thank you also to staff from Bakkavor who came in to work with our students who were unable to go to work on the day. Students worked on designing a dessert or wrap and the challenge involved thinking about their product having a unique selling point, the type of packaging and making sure it was fully costed and profitable. Students fully engaged in the activity with Edward, Johan and Vladimir presenting their winning idea for an innovative taco.

Snowdonia Trip

Zara Goode, Millie Hough, Gabriella Clarke, and Chiara Pacitti, Y12

After our 6am departure, and a long bus journey, we arrived in Snowdonia at Pen-y-Pass, and we were welcomed into Wales by the sun. We took a scenic route towards the summit, stopping at Llyn Teyrn where we took in the view of the glacial tarn from above. Shortly after, the track took us over



the causeway – above Llyn Llydaw reservoir – and we were able to sit within the landscape, taking it in as we had our lunch. Amazingly, the sun kept shining and the weather only improved whilst we continued our way up and into Snowdon Horseshoe. Although the pathway did become harder, we welcomed the challenge of climbing up the steeper stone steps. We all made it to lake Glaslyn where we stopped. The final view of Glaslyn and Snowdon summit was worth the steep climb in the unprecedented heat.

In the afternoon, we settled into our rooms and were even able to take a walk into the town, Conwy, where we had free time to see the quay and even have ice cream.



The next morning, we took another coach ride to Cwm Idwal, with the sun still shining down on us, and stopped in front of the Llyn to take a group photo.

We then took a short trip to the Nant Ffrancon valley, where we carried out some field work. With Mr Murray, we measured the angle of striations of where the glacier would have flowed over 10,000 years ago. With Mrs Greenfield, we measured the angles of a roche moutonnée – a feature found at the base of the valley – and with Miss Pollard, we sorted types of sediment that we found on the riverbank. We were blessed with the unusual but amazing weather as we carried out our fieldwork across the two days! Finally, we took in the surreal landscape of this previously glaciated area one last time before our bus ride back home.



Year 8 No Pens Day

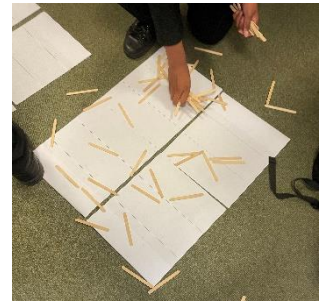
Advith Kallepally, 8F, and Lilyanna Darcy, 8G

On Thursday the whole of Year 8 participated in various activities as it was No Pens Day. The main idea was to promote oracy, to encourage students to express their ideas confidently.

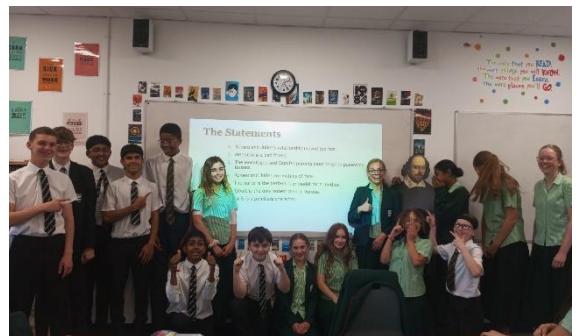
We began the day in Science by watching an interesting and informative documentary on volcanoes, which is related to our topic of Rocks. We then answered questions verbally regarding the documentary and discussed the key points. In History we focused on our debating skills. An example was when we had to explain which colony contributed most to the war effort in WW1 or debating the about different reasons why Germany loss, such as the invention of tanks or the USA's arrival in the war. We ultimately as a class chose a factor to why Germany lost.



During Maths we experimented with pi, by using paper and lollipop sticks to give a practical idea of how the ratios connect. We calculated pi without using any written calculations. The method was to place a lined sheet of paper and take a set number of popsicles. We then threw the popsicles onto the lines sheet of paper. The popsicles which haven't crossed the lined sheet of paper will be removed and the remaining number of popsicles on the lined sheet of paper will be recorded. The number will then be converted into pi by a formula.



In English we did a debate on Romeo and Juliet, our current topic. To prepare we were split into different groups, each assigned an argument to debate. We shared opinions and facts amongst ourselves and then presented their debate to the class. This was fun as we were able to communicate with each other and learn practically. This was a great way to demonstrate our understanding of the play and encourage us to use our oracy skills.



In Spanish we were assigned different Spanish speaking countries the day before No Pens Day, and we created fact files on our Spanish speaking country. We then had to present the fact file to the class (using good oracy skills that we have been developing) with the aim to prove why our country was the best place for tourism



Finally, to finish the day, in Design Engineering, the class explored different bridge designed before designing our own using paper. This method of learning was great as the class really engaged through the building, meaning the class communicated well inside their teams.

Overall, the day was a fun and interesting experience, for year 8 to learn and understand the meaning of oracy. It was fun to see how we could learn new things without having to write things down and just by talking and listening.

Tower of London and Churchill War Rooms Trip

Ella Dunnett and Teagan Haw, Y12

On Monday 19th May, the two Year 12 history classes went on a day trip to London, to support our current A-Level learning. Our first destination of the day was the Tower of London, which links closely to the learning we have covered in our medieval history lessons with Dr Barmby.



Whilst there, we had the opportunity to explore the ground in smaller groups. This included trekking up the multitude of towers, visiting St John's Chapel, exploring the museums inside the tower and some of us even managed to see the Crown Jewels!

The White Tower in particular was exceedingly relevant to our learning, as it was built following the Norman Conquest of England by King William I. This gave us a clearer understanding of how William I established dominance as King following the Battle of Hastings in 1066, which is a focal point to our module in history.

After the visit, we had some free time to get lunch and explore the surrounding area, before heading back to the coach. But, that wasn't the end of our trip, and we were off to see Churchill's war rooms.

Due to arriving about early, we had an opportunity to walk to Buckingham Palace, and we enjoyed a scenic route through the park to the palace. We then got to soak in the sight and channel our inner tourists, taking lots of photos, before heading back to the war rooms.

For context, the war rooms are where Churchill and other advisors spent their time determining the course of the Second World War. We were provided with audio guides and left to freely roam around the rooms until our meeting time, about an hour and a half later. This visit was especially relevant to Mr Green's unit we have been studying, and we made sure to spend plenty of time in the museum which had plenty of references to the content we had covered throughout the year, where Churchill has been featuring heavily. On top of this, we got to see examples of the reinforced structure, meeting rooms (where actual military strategic decisions would have been made), and more mundane aspects such as the bedrooms and kitchen.



Once our time was up, we made our way back to the coach. And, whilst at first the exhaustion was sinking in, after a service station stop everyone seemed to feel revitalised and the rest of the journey back was rather high energy: with lots of chatter and games. We eventually got back to school in the evening, and our history trip was officially over.

A big thank you to Mr Green for organising this trip for us, and to Dr Barmby and Mrs Bainbridge for accompanying us!

Individual Achievements

Isabelle Bradley



Isabelle Bradley 8H came 1st place in the Burghley One Day Event on her horse Benjamin Brush and was awarded 'Best in Burghley' on 18th May 2025.



Vincent Bradley



Vincent Bradley 7D won the U13 100m Lincolnshire County Championships on 11th May 2025.



Harry Brear



Harry Brear 13C had a fantastic experience at Buckingham Palace on Friday 9th May celebrating his Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Harry was able to meet other fellow Award holders across the country, walk around the beautiful gardens and take many photographs, have fun playing the garden games, and enjoy hearing from many inspirational guest speakers. Not forgetting a delicious cupcake and cup of tea in a reusable DoFE memento mug.



Lawson Capes



Lawson Capes opened up his outdoor 2025 season at the Loughborough International with 18.32m throwing against the senior Home Nations teams. He gained third place behind the UK No1 Scott Lincoln and a guest from Australia. A great start to the season especially in the middle of GCSE examinations which as taken its toll with late night revision around training sessions. Lawson now travels to Halle, Germany for the mecca of throwing to complete against some of the worlds best and is going in ranked number 2 behind a Chinese athlete. Then follows the Pickering International at Loughborough with some of the top teams around Europe on show. A heavy start to the season but a great experience to build for the season.

Geography Outreach at Bourne Westfield

Miss Lindley

This week, the Geography Department made our first primary school outreach visit to build links and enrich the geography experiences of students in our local area.

On Wednesday, we took several of our Year 12 A-level geographers to visit the three Year 6 classes at Bourne Westfield. The Year 6 students were excited to share their knowledge of rivers and flooding that they are currently studying as part of their Geography curriculum, with this in mind we had prepared a locally based decision-making exercise that would challenge their critical thinking skills, map skills and oracy. Our Year 12's started some role-play with the students, telling them that they were now part of the Bourne Town Council's Flood Defence Team and they had £100,000 to decide which flood defence schemes to use to protect Bourne from flooding in the future. This was led fantastically by our expert A-level Geographers who confidently delivered the masterclass in a fun and engaging way; introducing the activities which included a retrieval quiz, working closely with the groups during the DME, directing presentations for the Year 6's to tell each other their plans, and lastly awarding prizes to the top groups. All the classes really got stuck in-to the afternoon's activities, they gave plenty of detailed reasoning over their decisions and even stayed in budget!

We are incredibly proud and impressed by the effort and enthusiasm of our students, they represented BGS exceptionally – well done Geo Team! Thank you to the wonderful Year 6 teacher team at Bourne Westfield for hosting us and allowing us to join you in your amazing school with your lovely students, we are very much looking forward to building links between our schools. And thank you to Mrs Greenfield and Ms Pollard for joining us on this exciting afternoon.



Students left to right: Zoja Gajewska, Tilly Humle, Zara Goode, Chiara Pacitti, Victoria Paine, Gabriella Clarke, Sophie Gomes.

West End Wonders JR

Mr Jones

On 9, 10 and 11 July, the Music Department is presenting West End Wonders JR, a musical journey told through songs from the shows. The performances will showcase over 100 students from KS3, including the 80-strong Junior Choir, over 35 soloists and a group of dancers, all accompanied by our senior orchestra.

Preparations for this major event began back in September, taking a short break in Term 2 to rehearse for the Christmas Concert, followed by a

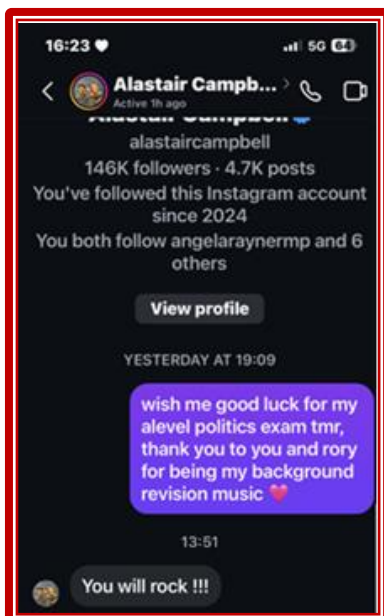


sustained period of rehearsals running alongside those for Guys and Dolls. Our younger students have benefitted from having a significant performance opportunity dedicated to them; the Junior Choir are singing in up-to three part harmonies (the Chamber Choir split into 8-parts at one point!), the soloists have had one-to-one mentoring to build confidence and develop their singing, while many students have also been able to participate in smaller groups to develop their ensemble skills. In addition, Livvy Bodmer (Y11) has put together a small group of dancers who will be showcasing their talent throughout the performances. And finally, the senior orchestra, many of whom also played in the band for Guys and Dolls, are in the process of learning another 2 hours of solid music.

Tickets for this event will be released after half-term. Full details will be communicated to parents in due course.

BBL Champion

Mr Hewitt, Deputy Head Academic



Sometimes, when revising hard for exams, you need to find that little bit of extra motivation; one of our Year 13 A Level Politics students, **Connie Bayliss**, found a source of inspiration the night before her exam. Connie, a fan of the This Is Politics Podcast, wrote to Alastair Campbell and received a good luck message back. Her teacher, Mr Tighe, writes the following to praise Connie's efforts during the course:

'Connie Bayliss is one of the most proactive members of the 2025 A Level Politics cohort. She has completed work experience with Alicia Kearns MP, she has earned accolades as a public speaker and blew the roof off the Sports Hall during the Hustings for the Mock General Election as the Lib Dem candidate. She intends to study Politics at university. She epitomises what Building Better Learners is about: using her classroom studies as a springboard to deeper and further research off her own back.'

Let's hope all the hard work has paid off for Connie and that - in the words of Alastair Campbell - she really did rock.

Exam Breakfasts



Students in Year 11 and 13, who will soon be sitting public examinations, will all be able to take a **free exam breakfast** from The Chill before their morning exam. There will be a varied choice of healthy options available and I would encourage all students to take advantage of grabbing some last-minute energy, particularly if they haven't already eaten that day.

Water Bottles



Staying hydrated helps with many things, including concentration, mood, and memory. **Friendly reminder to please bring a named water bottle into school.** We have refill stations across the school which are free to use. Please be aware that we no longer have plastic cups at reception, students can purchase water from the Chill or Gecko.

KS3 (Year 7,8 and 9) & Year 10 – Progress Review Meetings (PRM):

PRM Day: Friday 27 June (08:30-18:30)

PRM Evening 1: Thursday 12 June (17:00-20:30)

PRM Evening 2: Thursday 3 July (17:00-20:30)

Booking system:

The SchoolCloud booking system will open for bookings tonight at 20:00.

You will be able to book up to eight 6-minute appointments. Bookings are available on a first-come, first-served basis. The system will ensure that each video appointment will start and end at the scheduled time so please ensure you are logged in in good time.

The online booking system can be accessed here:

<https://bournegrammar.schoolcloud.co.uk/>





A login code is not required; the system has been set up using the details of the **Priority 1** parent and your child's **preferred** forename, surname and date of birth as recorded on our database.

Please ensure only one Priority 1 parent makes the bookings to avoid duplicated appointments.

All queries, please e-mail to Mrs Hall at prm@bourne-grammar.lincs.sch.uk

The booking system will close on **Sunday 8 June at 23:55.**

House Totals

			
8133	9005	6501	7455

Totals shown are House Points minus Behaviour Points awarded so far this term.

Students of the Week

Name	Year	Staff	Subject
John Marvin	7	Miss Davis-Williams	History
Henry Mitchell	7	Miss Patman	Spanish
Lilian Osoba	7	Miss Davis-Williams	History
Will Davies	7	Mr Dougall	Design Engineering
Samarth Aladakatti	8	Mrs Charters	Spanish
Isabelle Bradley	8	Miss Summerfield	Drama
Harry Carruthers	8	Miss Lindley	Geography
Finn Clarkson	8	Mrs Charters	Spanish
Kodi Gloster	8	Mrs Shales	Mathematics
Harrison Grief	8	Ms Bennett	English
Julianne Kettle	8	Mrs Shales	Mathematics
Sharlet Mary Abraham	8	Mrs Shales	Mathematics
Aqsa Nazam	8	Mrs Shales	Mathematics
Suraj Yadravi	8	Mrs Allen	English
Sofia Vanterpool	8	Miss Summerfield	Drama
Sienna Thomas	8	Ms Bennett	English
Toby Bell	9	Mrs Cowell	French
Yojit Bodduluri	9	Mr Bainbridge	History
Tom Godber	9	Mrs Charters	Spanish
Zac Holmes	9	Miss Summerfield	Drama
Christopher Louzolo	9	Ms Jasinska	Spanish
Carmen Van Der Westhuizen	9	Mr Walklin	Mathematics
Nevaeh Agyemang	9	Mr Osborne	Computer Science
Kirit Banda	9	Mr Osborne	Computer Science
Laila Redshaw	9	Mrs Charters	Spanish
Eleanor Twinley	9	Mr Osborne	Computer Science
Jack Caffrey	10	Mr Flight	Mathematics
Adeena Sajid	10	Mr Farrow	Statistics & Further Mathematics
Priyanka Sutrave	10	Mr Farrow	Statistics & Further Mathematics
Ava Hodge	10	Ms Bennett	English
Paul Rusalim	13	Mrs Shales	Mathematics