

BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL BULLETIN

Friday 15 May 2026

From Mark Brunner, Headteacher

Message from Headteacher

One of the most exciting developments we are currently exploring is the possibility of creating a dedicated library at BGS for the first time in at least a decade.

As the School has expanded significantly over the years, much of our available space has necessarily been prioritised for classrooms and teaching accommodation to ensure we could continue meeting growing student numbers. While that has been essential, it has also meant that BGS has not had a dedicated standalone library space for many years, although students do of course currently have access to books, reading materials and departmental resources across different areas of the School. I believe the time is now right to explore whether we can begin to address that.

Introducing a dedicated library into an already full and heavily used school site is not straightforward and there are many practical considerations that would need careful thought. Questions around social space, food provision, staffing, supervision, resources, layout and long-term development would all need to be considered carefully.

However, the first and most immediate question is a very simple one: where could a library realistically go?

The reality is that creating a brand-new standalone library building is simply beyond the School's current financial means. If we are to create a dedicated library in the near future, it is likely to require some compromise and creative use of our existing spaces. However, I strongly believe that a high-quality library would be a hugely valuable addition to the School for current and future generations of students.

It was for this reason that we began exploring whether the Gecko could potentially provide a suitable location for such a development.

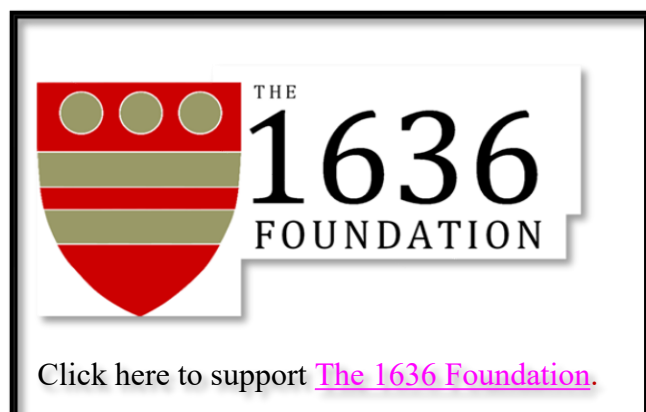
This week, more than 1,000 students shared their views through a survey about the proposal to convert the Gecko into a modern library and study space. Overall, more than two-thirds of students supported the idea, with support rising significantly amongst older students. In Years 12 and 13, around 90% of students were in favour of exploring the proposal, with many commenting positively on the potential benefits for reading, revision, independent study and access to academic resources.

What has been particularly encouraging has been the quality and thoughtfulness of the feedback. Students clearly recognise the value that a calm, purposeful and well-resourced library could bring to the School. Many described the importance of having a quieter space to read, revise or work independently during the school day, while others highlighted the growing need for additional Sixth Form study provision.

At the same time, students also raised entirely understandable questions, particularly around the potential loss of social space and the practicalities of break and lunchtime provision. These points matter and are being considered very carefully as part of any next steps. It was also clear from some comments that there may still be understandable questions around how food provision would continue if the proposal moved forward.

As with many developments across the School, ambitions such as this are also closely linked to the support of the wider BGS community. While no final decisions have been made, should the School continue to explore this proposal, support through The 1636 Foundation could play an important role in helping us create a genuinely high-quality library environment for students.

Finally, in other news, congratulations to Lawson Capes in Year 12, who has been selected to represent the GB Juniors team in the shot put at this weekend's prestigious Loughborough International athletics event. Competing against international athletes at one of the country's most respected meetings is a tremendous achievement and reflects Lawson's exceptional commitment, talent and hard work. To earn selection for Great Britain at this level is something very special indeed. We wish Lawson every success for Sunday.



Bushcraft Report

- Mr S Chamberlain, Head of Year 7

On 11th May, 200 Year 7 students enjoyed an unforgettable Bushcraft experience at Boughton Woods in Kettering.

Surrounded by forest, the day offered a fantastic opportunity for students to step outside the classroom and take part in hands-on outdoor learning.

Working in groups, students threw themselves into a range of exciting activities, including building shelters, creating and lighting campfires, and learning basic trap-making skills.



One of the highlights of the day was gathering around the campfire to toast s'mores, which was a big hit with everyone.

Students also enjoyed camouflage games, making full use of the woodland setting as they worked together and developed their teamwork skills.

The day was filled with energy, enthusiasm, and collaboration, with students embracing every challenge and making the most of the experience. It was a truly memorable day, enjoyed by all.



Year 10 Summer League – Miss C Bradley, Head of Year 10

We are now three weeks into the Summer League competition, and the Year 10s are wracking up those House Points.

We have seen a multitude of winners so far which is great to see, whilst the overall podium places have also been changing weekly.

Having said that, a big shout-out to Will Towers-Fitzpatrick and Tyler Bates for earning back-to-back victories in their respective leagues.

Special mention must also go to Florence Wrigley and Aleksander Wiza for earning over 20 points each in just one week. Keep up the great work everyone!

Celebrating Individual Success – Isabelle Stokes (7G)

We are delighted to celebrate the fantastic achievement of Isabelle Stokes in Year 7.

Competing at county level, Isabelle took part in the recent county gymnastics competition held at the Witham Hill Gymnastics Club in Lincoln.

Representing Spalding Gymnastics Academy, she competed against five other clubs in a strong field of gymnasts.

In her age group, Isabelle was one of 14 gymnasts competing across two disciplines: floor and vault.

Demonstrating her skill, dedication and composure, Isabelle achieved an outstanding **2nd place overall**.

We are incredibly proud of her success and we look forward to seeing what she achieves next - well done, Isabelle!

Week 3 Weekly Winners:

League 1 – Ashwidaen Suyaraj

League 2 – Florence Wrigley

League 3 – Aran Camfield

League 4 – Archie Gilbert

League 5 – Aleksander Wiza

League 6 – Edward Ciopec

League 7 – Haleema Ali & Isabella Reynolds

League 8 – Radha Thotakura & Isabella Atkinson

League 9 – Rohan Lesiw & Tyler Bates

League 10 – Liam Prue

League 11 – Millie Steel

League 12 – Will Towers-Fitzpatrick



BBL Champions of the Week

- Mrs A Allen, Assistant Headteacher (Academic)

BBL Champion – Nico Muriritirwa (7D)

Nico Muriritirwa (7D) has been nominated as this week's BBL Champion by his English teacher, Miss Mears, for his consistently excellent dedication and organisation.

Nico always completes his BBL to a very high standard, showing great pride in his work and a positive attitude towards his learning. His effort and commitment never go unnoticed.

Well done, Nico!



And the Oscar Goes To.....

- Mr M Williamson, Subject Leader: Media Studies

The annual A Level Media Awards (The ALMAS) recently celebrated the creativity, innovation, and technical skills of our Year 13 students.

The awards recognised outstanding NEA productions created throughout the year, showcasing impressive talent across print, film, digital design, and journalism.

Congratulations to all students who were nominated and their contributions to another fantastic year of creative achievement in the subject.

2026 Award Winners (Below, from left to right):

Tula Harvey (Print Production)
Lola Jones (Online Article)
Em Peck (Audio/Visual Production)
Elia Cranwell (Branding)
Will Simpson (Graphic Design)
Joy Vinter (The Henry Jenkins Award)



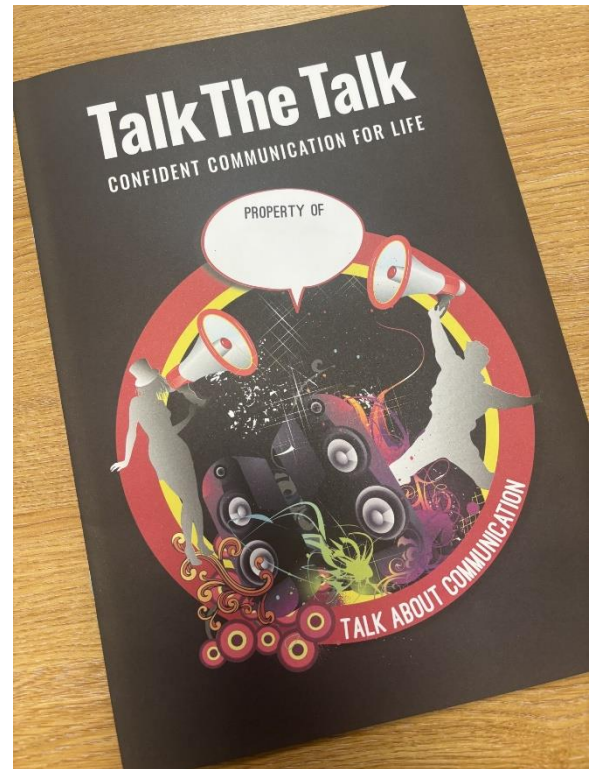
Year 8 Oracy Skills

- Mrs A Allen (Assistant Headteacher (Academic))

This week, Year 8 have had a strong focus on developing their Oracy skills across the curriculum. On Monday, all students took part in an engaging workshop delivered by trainers from *Talk The Talk*, aimed at building confidence in speaking, listening and communication. Students explored techniques for effective discussion, presentation skills and how to express their ideas with clarity and confidence.

The focus on Oracy continued on Wednesday with our 'No Pens Day' initiative. Throughout the day, Year 8 students completed their lessons without writing, instead demonstrating their learning through discussion, collaboration, debate, presentations and verbal explanation. The day highlighted that meaningful learning can take place in many ways and gave students valuable opportunities to strengthen their oracy skills across all subjects.

It has been fantastic to see Year 8 embracing these activities with enthusiasm and confidence.



Psychology Students Enjoy Visiting Speaker Dr M Hobbiss, Subject Leader: Psychology

On Wednesday afternoon Year 12 Psychology students enjoyed a visit from Stefan Marianski, a practising psychotherapist.

Dr Marianski firstly gave an entertaining talk entitled 'Introducing Freud', extending the students' understanding of a key historical figure from their course, as well as challenging them on various misconceptions and oversimplifications associated with Freud's work.

The second talk, entitled 'Pathways through the UK mental health system' provided a first-hand account of the current state of the UK mental health system and how patients might move through it. Dr Marianski examined the role of the NHS, charities and the private sector, illustrating his reflections with case histories from his own practice.



A fascinating and entertaining afternoon, which was very positively received by the students.

Year 13 Computer Science NEA Projects

- Mr P Osborne, Subject Leader: Computer Science

It has been an extremely busy few months for the Year 13 Computer Science cohort, as they have been putting the finishing touches to their Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) projects. The standard of work has been highly impressive, with many submissions reflecting both personal passion and real-world relevance.

Countless hours of planning, research, and coding have enabled students to produce such refined and professional outcomes. A selection of some of the most innovative and unique projects is showcased below.

Tournament Software - Freya Fairhead-Abrahams

These are a few snapshots of the work Freya produced for her 'Tournament Software' project—an application designed to help participants at martial arts events register for competitions in a simple and user-friendly way. Freya chose this project because, as an elite-level competitive black belt and instructor, she has extensive experience using registration systems that are often inefficient and difficult to navigate.



```
1 # Reporting libraries for later use
2 import csv
3 import os
4 import hashlib
5 import tkinter as tk
6 from tkinter import ttk
7 from tkinter import messagebox
8
9 # Constants
10 # Use in file handling
11 USER_FILE = "user_details.csv"
12 ATHLETE_FILE = "athletes_details.csv"
13 COMP_FILE = "toms_details.csv"
14 USER_HEADERS = ["User-ID", "Email", "Password"]
15 ATHLETE_HEADERS = ["AthleteID", "User-ID", "Name", "Email", "Phone Number", "Club", "Nationality", "Age", "Gender", "Belt", "Height",
16 "Competitions Entered"]
17 COMP_HEADERS = ["ID", "Event Name", "Organisation", "Date", "Location", "Age Groups", "Categories", "Competitors"]
18 # Rule in competition creation
19 AGE_GROUPS = ["9-11", "12-14", "15-17", "18+", "35+"]
20 CATEGORIES = ["Points Fighting", "Light Continuous", "Traditional Kata", "Traditional Weapons"]
21 # Rule in creating divisions and showing eligible categories
22 AGE_GROUPS = ["9-11", "12-14", "15-17", "18+", "35+"]
23 BELTS = ["White", "Red and white", "Red", "Yellow", "Orange", "Green", "Blue", "Purple", "Brown", "Brown and white", "Brown and Black",
24 "Black"]
25 GENDER = ["Male", "Female"]
26 LEVELS = ["Beginner": BELTS[0:3], "Intermediate": BELTS[4:7], "Advanced": BELTS[8:9]]
27 WEIGHT_CLASSES = [(0, 25.5), (25.5, 35.5), (35.5, 45.5), (45.5, 55.5), (55.5, 65.5), (65.5, 75.5), (75.5, 85.5), (85.5, 95.5), (95.5, 105.5), (105.5, 150.5)]
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Nationals

Event Information

Organisation: AKA
Date: 12/3/2026
Location: Leeds

Age Groups: [-'9', '9-11', '12-14', '15-17', '18+']
Categories: ['Points Fighting', 'Traditional Kata', 'Traditional Weapons']

[Register for this Competition](#)

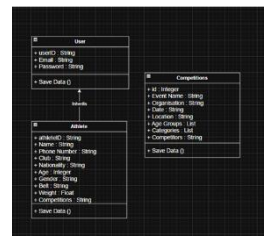


Figure 1: Tournament Software - Freya Fairhead-Abrahams

Dementia Face Recognition System - Oscar Ashley

Oscar developed a tool that uses a camera and display system. When the device is pointed at a person's face, it prompts the carer to enter that individual's name and their relationship to the patient. When the same person is recognised again, the device displays this stored information to help prompt the patient's memory.

For patients who receive visits from family members but struggle to recall who they are, this can often lead to feelings of exclusion or discomfort. By providing an easy way to identify names and relationships, the tool helps make social interactions more manageable and supports patients in coping with memory loss.

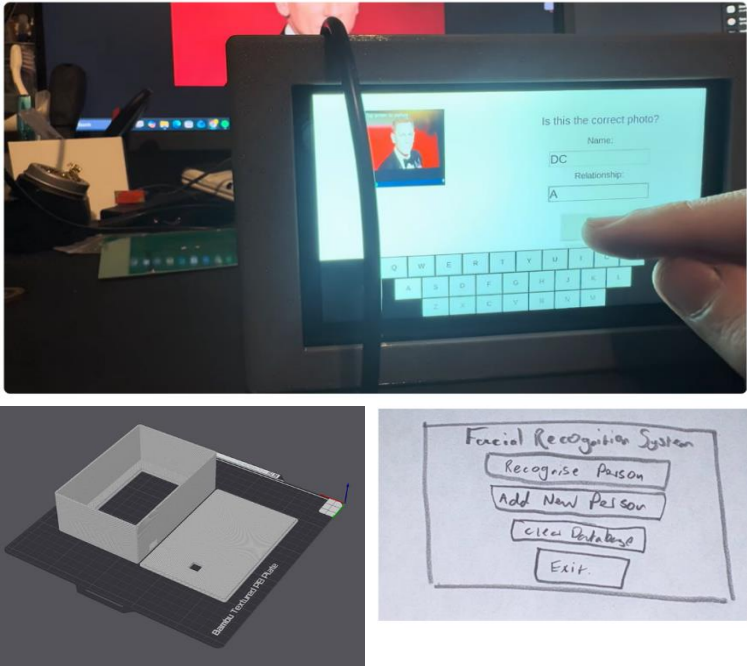


Table 1: People

Name	Data Type	Description
person_id	Integer	Primary key
name	Text	Persons name
relation	Text	Relationship to user

Table 2: Embeddings

Name	Data Type	Description
person_id	Integer	foreign key
embedding	BLOB	Vector holding facenet embedding.

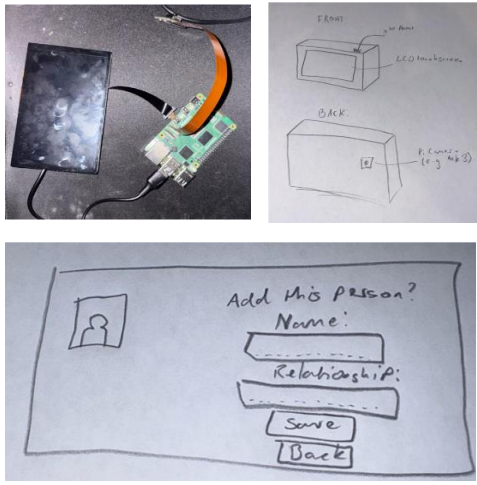


Figure 2: Dementia Face Recognition System - Oscar Ashley

BSL Translator: A way of conversing more easily - Ria Thampy

For her project, Ria developed a tool that enables users to perform actions using British Sign Language (BSL). This allows communication to be more accessible and straightforward for individuals who do not specialise in BSL. Ria trained the software using a process called supervised learning, which improves the system's ability to recognise gestures by analysing large datasets. This highly ambitious project demonstrates how our young Computer Scientists are helping to shape a more inclusive and accessible future.

Figure 3: BSL Translator: A way of conversing more easily - Ria Thampy

I wish the entire cohort the very best of luck in their exams and sincerely hope that many of these students continue to pursue Computer Science as they progress in their future careers.

Celebrating Excellence in Spanish Spelling – Los Reyes y Reinas de la Ortografía

- Mrs M Baverstock, Spanish





Each term, the Spanish Department proudly celebrates the achievements of our most accomplished spellers.

We are delighted to recognise the students who were awarded the distinction of *Reyes y Reinas de la Ortografía* in Term 4, in recognition of their outstanding accuracy, commitment, and dedication to the Spanish language.

¡Estamos muy orgullosos de vosotros!

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9		YEAR 10
Henry Lakin	Mia Allen	Aarikha Arunkumar	Ryan Ogbonna	Gabriela Korbylo
Angelina Peng	Jack Derbyshire	Hermione Lumb	Celina Peng	Ellie Moore
Henry Steele	Vaishwi Sreekanth	Finley Bate	Freya Ridgewell	Dylan Moverley
Jemima Garland	Holly Aiken	Evelyn Bostock	Adsajan Sivakumar	Bella Hill
Kian Ghaffari	William Giblin	Isabelle Bradley	Phoebe Stoadley	Isla Cummins
Ava Lidgley	Teddy Grassby	Wilbur Crawford	Jasmine Sutton	Melosa Gigi
Lucy McLaren	Henry Mitchell	Robin Daniels	Roksana Lulczynska	Saffron Steen
Esme Scholes	Fletcher Norfolk	William Didsbury	Divyana Patel	Charlie Hempstead
Christian Glenn-Stone	Ruben Pattison	Sylvie Gregory-Smith	Harriet Templeman	Beatrice Amos
Emmett Saker	Emily Robinson	Madeleine Hobson	Alessia Pacitti	Jessica Daniels
Jude Pearl	Fraser Daniels	Flavia Hoxha	Erika Bryson	Geerthana Elango
Aggie Scrivens	Simra Imran	Jules Kelsey	Sophie Alliston	
Fliiss Marshall	Hannah Duggins	Julianne Kettle	Jack Adresen	
Barbara Samusz	Anna Hartley	Zina Nwamarah	Lillyana Darcy	YEAR 12
Ellison Trawford	Tirth Patel	Mya Kirk	Grace Edgell	Adelina Zagarodniuc
Emily Greenfield	Martha Saralis	Sophia Aziz	Bethany Gledhill	William Brown
Izzy Jones	Ben Cham	Anna Da Silva	Jace Gwiti	Chloe Burgin
Charlotte Lawrence	Maryam Seit	Dhriti Kavuri	Ruwanthi Hasan	Calem Healy
Izzy Lawrence	Kriti Subudhi	Eva Neal	Ruby Hefferon	
Gabe Gao	Iris Thomas	Noah Mason	Anish Katha	
Evelyn Garton	Romeo Angel	Martha Shackell	Juliette King	YEAR 13
Beau Matthew	Isaac Donaldson	Holly Thornhill	Alicja Odrobinska	Jyoti Bista
Effie May	Elliar Fisher	Jasmine Wilkinson	Ivy Roberts	Matilda Eagle-Brown
Penny Norton	Ellie Fryer	Suraj Yadravi	Lennon Smith	Vikita Shah
Gracie Gray	Keira Hennelly	Hetty Bell	Sofia Vanterpool	Atte Maaranen
Jay Mistry	Tilda-Rose Houghton	Natalia Borowiak	Andrejs Zinkevics	Amy Watkinson
Ella Wells	Matthew Pitchford	Naomi Crowther	Zach Beeken	
Emily Cox	Toby Scholes	Madison Fowler	Amelia Lidgley	
Ishan Singh	Megan Younger	Freddie Gibson	Poppy Pawlett	
Elwood Williams	Basem Awadallah	Lauren Hammond	Viganth RG	
Felix Beesley	Amalie Keegan	Dylan Kennard	Idara Samson	
Lottie Gibson	Harriet Booth	Patricija Krulko		
Usaym Moin	Sophia Stevens	Finn Lemon		
Saideep Rai	Isla Tate	Kumayl Meghji		
	Harvey Weston	Krithik Mohan		
	Lilian Osoba			
	Hayden Thomas			
	Andrés Valdez			

House Totals

			
9868	9485	8781	10081

***These totals show all House Points earned minus Behaviour Points.
It includes points from all students in each house for Term 5 up to 14/05/2026.***

Name	Year	Type	Staff	Subject
Freddie Bellairs	7	Learner of the Week	Mr Bainbridge	History
Kiki Blakey	7	Person of the Week	Mrs Pignatiello	Pastoral
Harrison Derbyshire	7	Learner of the Week	Mr Bainbridge	History
Winston Gregory-Smith	7	Learner of the Week	Miss McCarthy	Spanish
Patrick Hines	7	Learner of the Week	Mrs Charters	Spanish
Izzy Jones	7	Learner of the Week	Miss Mears	English
Daniel Kearns	7	Person of the Week	Mrs Charters	Pastoral
Georgios Mantaleris	7	Learner of the Week	Mrs Charters	Spanish
Penny Norton	7	Learner of the Week	Mrs Baverstock	Spanish
Tanay Poshala	7	Learner of the Week	Miss McCarthy	Spanish
Ivy Quirke	7	Learner of the Week	Mrs Goultidou	Geography
Aisha Umar	7	Learner of the Week	Mrs Charters	Spanish
Elwood Williams	7	Person of the Week	Mr Edwards	Pastoral
Alexander Bane	8	Learner of the Week	Miss Mears	English
Alexander Bane	8	Learner of the Week	Mr Westland	PE
Arlo Barrasso	8	Person of the Week	Mrs Hernandez	Pastoral
Finley Canavan	8	Learner of the Week	Mr Calver	Mathematics
Finn Gibson	8	Learner of the Week	Mrs Evans	Geography
Charlotte Jackson	8	Learner of the Week	Mr Bainbridge	History
John Marvin	8	Learner of the Week	Mrs Pryor	Mathematics
Henry Mitchell	8	Learner of the Week	Mrs Goultidou	EPR
Amelia Nicholson	8	Learner of the Week	Mr Bainbridge	History
Joey Scott	8	Learner of the Week	Mrs Pryor	Mathematics
Rylee Turner	8	Learner of the Week	Mr Green	Personal Development
Sharlet Mary Abraham	9	Learner of the Week	Mr Brooker	English
Tom Burrows	9	Person of the Week	Mr Brooker	Pastoral
Joshi Burton	9	Learner of the Week	Miss Roberts	English
Liam Forman	9	Learner of the Week	Mrs Cowell	French
Flavia Hoxha	9	Person of the Week	Mr Perez	Pastoral
Olivia Laud	9	Learner of the Week	Ms Bennett	English
Olivia Laud	9	Learner of the Week	Mr Bainbridge	History
Imaan Manji	9	Learner of the Week	Mrs Cowell	French
Emily Bridges	10	Learner of the Week	Mr Williamson-Ward	English
Edward Ciopec	10	Learner of the Week	Ms Bennett	English

Name	Year	Type	Staff	Subject
Rose Divers	10	Learner of the Week	Mr Calver	Mathematics
Kaleb Nicol-Mace	10	Learner of the Week	Miss McCarthy	Spanish
Hattie Symondson	10	Learner of the Week	Mr Williamson-Ward	English
Otto Wild	10	Person of the Week	Miss Kendrew	Pastoral
Amelia Kearns	12	Learner of the Week	Mr Williamson	Media Studies
Noah Richardson	12	Learner of the Week	Ms Kemp	English Literature
Ella Snart	12	Learner of the Week	Miss Sanders	Sociology